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Ken Clarke drops in to find out why mediation matters

SEE **PAGE 13**

Headteacher celebrates top marks on our new schools page

SEE **PAGE 25**



We're giving away

£5,000



BY ADAM GRINSELL

adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

MK NEWS has £50,000 to give away - and this is your chance to grab a piece of the action for your community.

We have teamed up with Sport Relief and the MK Community Foundation to award the money to groups, clubs and charities that serve the city.

Small amounts between £500 and £1,000 will be handed out to those in Milton Keynes deserving it the most, whether it is a sports club, play group or any other organisation that helps out those in the city.

Every week in the run-up to the Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile on Sunday, March 25, MK NEWS will be telling you about the groups and organisations that have already benefited from previous grants, and will be giving you information on how to get involved.

MK NEWS editor Cally Jenkins will be part of the panel that will decide which groups will be getting the money.

She said: "This is such a great opportunity for the community of Milton Keynes to benefit directly from the Sport Relief initiative.

"Often people who donate to charity don't get to see where their money goes, but with this Sport Relief Community Cash scheme you will get to see your money in action right

across the city.

"We will be helping more than 50 groups and organisations to access much-needed funds and I'm very proud that MK NEWS is at the heart of that project."

She is also urging as many people and organisations as possible to take the opportunity to apply.

She added: "Whether you are a sports club that needs new equipment, or a social group looking to entice new members, get in touch and make sure you have a chance of receiving a grant."

A whole host of celebrities are supporting the Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile in Milton Keynes and Sport Relief Community Cash scheme, including Miranda Hart, pictured right.

She said: "Do me proud and enter the Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile in Milton Keynes on Sunday, March 25.

"If we all do our bit we could make this the biggest Sport Relief yet - come on guys!

"Whether you run, walk or crawl to the finish line (I personally favour the gallop) your efforts really will help to make a huge difference to those in need both here in the UK and across the world's poorest countries."

■ For more information on the Sport Relief Community Cash scheme, the Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile and how to apply for grants, turn to pages 14 and 15.



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City dubbed one to watch in report

THERE is a sense of pride in Milton Keynes after it was pegged as one to watch in this year's report from the independent think-tank, Centre for Cities.

For the third year running, Milton Keynes has been praised for its strong economy, the standard of its workforce, and overall durability in the face of increasingly tough economic conditions.

Council leader, Andrew Geary, said: "We're always confident that

Milton Keynes remains one to watch and this latest report from Centre for Cities is most welcome."

The report explains that Milton Keynes is well placed to support the creation of the jobs and growth that will address the UK's unemployment challenge.

Jon Weymouth, development director at thecentre:mk, said: "With a large number of business start ups and large pools of high-

ly-skilled residents, it is a place where people want to do business."

The city's MPs have also expressed their delight in Milton Keynes' success.

Iain Stewart said: "I am pleased that it recognised the high skills level in the city."

Mark Lancaster added: "It is a great credit to Milton Keynes that the report shows such positive economic results."



Looking to the future: An artist's impression of how the extension to John Lewis will look

John Lewis expansion plans given go-ahead

BY ADAM GRINSELL

adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A MULTI-MILLION pound expansion of a city centre store has been given the go-ahead.

On Thursday night, controversial plans for John Lewis in the centre:mk were unanimously agreed by Milton Keynes Council's (MKC) planning committee, despite opposition from English Heritage.

The group objected to the plans as it said the development would 'harm' the building, after it was given Grade II-listed status.

The access to the store will be updated, part of the shop will be

reconfigured to increase the sales area by about 20,000 sq ft, and the front of the store will be extended into the colonnades.

Robert Hall, centre:mk centre director, said: "As a listed building, it is imperative that we work to maintain the important features of the listing while still facilitating the creation of a new and modern retail space, and there is no doubt in our minds that a refurbished and enhanced John Lewis store will help us do this."

Ken Baker, of CMK Town Council and one of the original architects, said: "It was the first time that English Heritage had recommended refusal for a plan-

ning application since the building was listed, yet despite compelling arguments, MKC rejected its advice."

Paul Hunt, managing director of John Lewis Milton Keynes, said: "Our multi-million pound investment will benefit local shoppers and will contribute significantly to the vitality and appeal of Milton Keynes and thecentre:mk."

The investment is forecast to contribute increased customer spending of around £10-£15million per annum.

Construction will start in early spring and is expected to take seven months.

David's plea to help research

SINGER-SONGWRITER David Read headed to Westminster yesterday to call for new measures to boost dementia research.

Alzheimer's Research UK warns that the UK's world-renowned dementia knowledge base could be lost unless scientists have better opportunities to enter and remain in the field.

Mr Read, 57, from North Crawley, has been made a Champion of Alzheimer's Research UK in recognition of his exceptional support as a spokesman and fundraiser.

Open day for college courses

A VARIETY of apprenticeships with some world-leading firms will be showcased at Milton Keynes College Open Day on Saturday.

Most notably, Red Bull Racing will be taking a Formula One show car to the college's new Innovation & Technology Centre at the Chaffron Way Campus. Representatives will be speaking to students about apprenticeships in the company, in partnership with TXM Recruit Ltd.

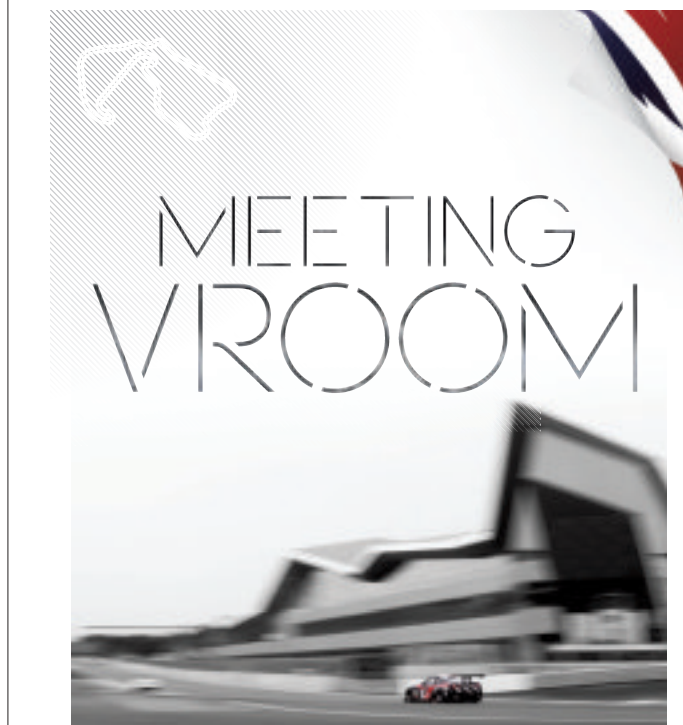
Other organisations - Niftylift, JTL, Cosworth and Rockwell Automation - will also be promoting apprenticeship

programmes.

Sally Watts, director of marketing at the college, said: "In these times of high unemployment, it's more important than ever for us to offer a step on a career path to school leavers and other young, and not so young, students."

The college will provide information on a wide number of courses.

It will be open from 11am-2pm and visitors are advised to find out ahead of time which campus they should visit by logging onto www.mkcollege.ac.uk, or calling 01908 684452.



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Spreading the love: Fastsigns owner Alan Grimes with one of the popular stickers

Residents spread love with stickers

BY DAN PALMER

dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

PROUD residents have quite literally been sticking up for their estate.

Hundreds of stickers bearing the unashamed motto 'I love Fishermead' have started to appear around the area – stuck up by people determined to restore the community's tarnished reputation.

The estate was rocked by a fatal arson attack and the shooting of two teenagers last year, and in November the Citizens:MK group launched a bid to turn the area

into the city's first 'safe haven'.

Alan Grimes, owner of Fastsigns in Blechley, read about this in MK NEWS and swung into action with his stickers idea.

He wanted to help in any way he could after seeing the article, which included an impassioned plea for a safer Fishermead from student Giovanna Lareya.

Mr Grimes lives in Northampton but still wanted to help.

He said: "After reading MK NEWS I was aware of some of the problems which have been occurring and I wanted to see if we could do anything."

"It was just an idea, I thought it

might build community spirit."

Fastsigns approached Campbell Park Parish Council who liked the idea and took 150 stickers.

But they were such a hit that they soon had to return for another batch and more than 500 have now been printed.

The company has not charged for the stickers which have been used in schools and by the police.

Others have appeared on car windows and buildings.

Dominic Walker, parish manager and clerk of the parish council, said: "We are quite happy to get behind this, it's about positive reinforcement."

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Free technology advice

LOCAL businesses can benefit from a free IT advice session tomorrow. The event, hosted by Biztech, will be held at the Milton Keynes University Centre, from 6pm. Businesses can get help regarding technology and business from the expert panel. Places are limited so please visit www.biztech.org.uk to book.

Pupils head to Wembley

PUPILS from Oakgrove School will compete in the National Final of the Coca-Cola Enterprises Real Business Challenge 2011 at Wembley Stadium today. They will spend the day responding to business challenges, as well as meeting Tanni Gray-Thompson, Britain's most successful Paralympics athlete.

Worries over child poverty

LATEST figures on child poverty have been slammed by MK's Green councillor Liz Campbell.

A report published this week by the pressure group End Child Poverty claimed that one in five local children are living in poverty.

The statistics show significant

variations between areas with Blechley touching on a child poverty level of 40 per cent.

Cllr Campbell said: "These figures are alarming and unacceptable and demonstrate the reality behind the Government's lie that we are all in it together."

Man loses fingers at factory

A FACTORY in Tilbrook was fined after a worker lost three fingers in a bubble wrap making machine.

Milton Keynes Magistrates' Court heard that Daniel Winters, 29, from Leighton Buzzard, was cleaning debris from the machine at Sansetsu (UK) Limited when his right hand became caught and was trapped

between two powered rollers.

The factory was issued with an Improvement Notice because the correct safety measures were not in place. This has been rectified.

The company pleaded guilty to breaching Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations.

It was fined £7,000 and ordered to pay costs of £2,742.

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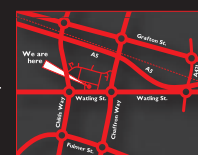
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Smoking ban thoughts

SIR - What I find hopeful about the story 'Stony Stratford smoking ban rejected', which appeared on your website, is, at last, councillors have finally stood up to the 'what about the children?' cry.

This cry has been a major influence on smoking bans since few elected politicians would wish to be seen as supporting anything at all which could be seen as damaging to children.

Let us hope that councillors throughout the land will have courage to say 'before we even consider this idea, I want to know how it is possible for tobacco smoke in the open air in a park to damage the health of children in any way whatsoever'. No proof, no ban.

Name and address supplied

The air's for us all

SIR - Having moved to the area recently I am shocked at these ludicrous ideas that Councillor Paul Bartlett has proposed.

He is quoted as saying: "We need to look at how we can protect people and promote Stony Stratford".

Banning smoking in the streets is not promoting the area, it seriously puts me off the area and will do others.

People will be reluctant to use the many restaurants and bars in the area, which have already suffered badly due to the smoking ban already in place.

Let's face it, it's allowed nationwide and in almost every part of the world - we pay our council tax and heavy prices for the cigarettes themselves which is mostly tax-

ation. It's banned indoors and we respect that, but it's our world, our air, not yours alone Cllr Bartlett.

You may have been a councillor for 25 years, however I now suspect that you have maybe lost your touch.

Yiannis Triplis
Sent by e-mail

Glad ban was rejected

SIR - I'm glad Cllr Bartlett's plans have been defeated.

I'm a smoker but it was stopped in public houses and one thing I've noticed is most non-smokers follow their friends outside when they go to smoke!

They already have the freedom to eliminate themselves from smoking areas and don't take it!

Stopping smoking in Stony Stratford would impact on the pubs and other businesses too.

Cllr Bartlett should concentrate on more worthwhile cases!

Stephen Hardy
Sent by e-mail

■ For more on this story, turn to page 11

No, I wouldn't pay more

SIR - I assume Cllr Peter Geary is going to use the excuse of inherited financial problems as the reason for his warning that housing repairs like boilers and windows could be put in danger if rents are not increased to the level he has proposed (Would you pay more for repairs?, MK NEWS, January 18).

Well it may come as a surprise to him but the cost of repairs to broken glass in windows was pushed

onto the tenants list of responsibilities a while ago, as were a lot of other items that we as tenants now have to pay for so Milton Keynes Council can save money.

In 2002 Cllr Henderson, who was then responsible for housing, came up with the same excuse of inherited wealth, or rather the lack of it, to inform tenants that we were having the list of repairs that we would be responsible for increased yet again.

This included replacing internal doors, toilet seats and floor tiles. One wonders why Cllr Geary uses this threat to increase rents when clearly his tenants are doing the repairs already.

During the recent heavy winds two fence panels were blown down and wrecked in my rear garden.

I contacted the repairs team and the contractor who came out told me that the council is no longer responsible for repairs to fences that separate gardens, so that's another £40 I will have to find on part-time wages to get it fixed.

Do tenants in the private sector suffer from the same lack of repairs from their landlords I wonder? In answer to your question 'would I be happy to pay more rent' the answer to that is no - I cannot afford it with all the repairs I am having to pay for.

Bill Green
Wolverton

Increase is reasonable

SIR - It is disappointing to see MK Lib Dem dinosaurs voting against every measure to improve the lives of people in our town.

Councillor Chris Williams states

that a council home rent increase including £1.70 a week for improvements will create a crisis.

Yet, an average rent of £83.08 (including the £1.70) is about half of what one pays in the private sector, and hence the increase is perfectly reasonable.

The proposed £1.70 a week for improvements amounts to about £7 a month. It's less than half a basic Sky subscription, about 25 per cent of a mobile phone contract, a couple of McDonalds meal deals, or a few pints of beer.

Is Cllr Williams seriously suggesting that these things are more important than improvements to already heavily subsidised housing? Or is he simply hanging on to the prehistoric view that everything in life is free, and if it's not, someone else should pay for it?

John Baker
Woughton

Where are repairs?

SIR - To say the rent rise would go on repairs is a joke!

I live in a council house with an old kitchen and had to pay for the insulation of the cupboards.

The windows are double glazed but this doesn't stop the cold, noise and water coming in. When it rains and is windy, rain water comes in on the side.

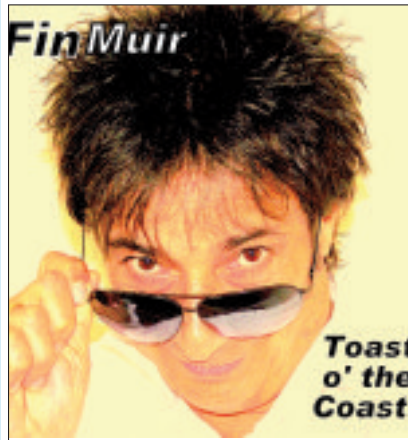
Last year I had burst pipes as there was no insulation on them. I had to pay for some to be put on them.

So what exactly are the repairs that are being done?

Angela Norris
Sent by e-mail

Jon Brett's City Life

His fortnightly column written exclusively for MK NEWS



Fin's fantastic memories

FOR 15 years, Scots-born Fin made Milton Keynes his home and made a big impression on the burgeoning live music scene in the city.

As the former hell-raising frontman of 80s rock band Waysted, Fin toured with Ozzy Osbourne and Motley Crue and counted Def Leppard singer Joe Elliot and Iron Maiden crooner Bruce Dickinson as his mates.

The mid-80s were a blur of sold out stadiums, lycra jumpsuits and generally crazy nights.

Following the inevitable 'musical differences', Fin and Waysted went their separate ways and it

was in the 90s that Fin made Milton Keynes his home.

Initially lead singer with 5 Go Jazz - the resident band at the recently opened Point - Fin was able to showcase his musical talent to new audiences.

With such a varied showbusiness career, it's difficult to pick a highlight. Perhaps it was an award-winning collaboration with Stony Stratford's most famous son, the late Big George Webley, providing the vocal for the theme tune to BBC's The Office?

Nowadays performing under his full name of Fin Muir, the unlikely

seaside town of Cleethorpes in the North East is his home, which is where I caught up with him.

Rightly cashing in on the success of Handbags and Gladraggs, Fin is now the premiere Rod Stewart tribute act in the country. Just search Fin Muir on YouTube and see for yourself.

"I've fantastic memories of Milton Keynes and would love to bring the Rod show to town."

"I also miss my mate Big George so much," Fin told me this week.

"It's fair to say I've lived the dream, been there and got the rock 'n' roll t-shirt."

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Cost of replacing covers hits £75k

BY ADAM GRINSELL

adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

ABOUT £75,000 was spent on replacement drain covers in 2011 as thoughtless thieves tried to make the most of increasing scrap metal prices.

Milton Keynes Council spends about £300 from the highways maintenance budget per replacement drain cover, while thieves only make around £10 for each one they manage to sell.

Last year 250 covers were stolen from around the borough, including 28 in one spate of thefts from the A509 near Newport Pagnell on December 8.

Another 24 - at a cost of £7,200 - were taken from the B526 between Gayhurst and Newport Pagnell late last year.

That means a whopping £75,000 of taxpayers' money would have been spent covering up the holes left behind.

Last year, MK NEWS reported that the council is trying to tackle the problem by fitting specially hinged gully covers, which would make it harder for them to be stolen.

A council spokesman said: "We are looking to repair the A509 by the end of the month and any help the public can give us by reporting anyone acting suspiciously on the highways will also help us tremendously in preventing metal thefts."

Neighbouring authority Central Bedfordshire Council is looking to bring in rules which would allow the council to license scrap metal dealers in its area.

At its full council meeting last Thursday it passed a motion dis-



Missing: Cones where the drain covers used to be along the A509

cussing this and suggested that it would turn to its neighbouring authorities, including Milton Keynes, to join its scheme.

It is hoped this will stop thieves just visiting a dealer outside of

Central Beds to get money for their ill-gotten gains.

When asked if Milton Keynes Council would be singing up to this, a spokesman said the authority could not comment.

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Fight to save Homestart

A PETITION has been set up in a bid to save Homestart Milton Keynes from closure.

As reported by MK NEWS in August, the charity will lose its core funding from Milton Keynes Council from April 1, which could force the charity to close in March.

Its groups, as well as a home visit service, offer support, advice and a listening ear to families struggling to cope with issues such as sick children and other situations which make parents feel in need of help.

In a battle to save the valuable service one of the volunteers has set up an e-petition on the Milton Keynes Council website. Readers can show their support by visiting <http://epetitionsmk.firmstep.com/petitions/saving-homestart-milton-keynes>.

The document needs to gain 500 signatures for a senior officer to give evidence at the council's overview and scrutiny management committee.

If it receives more than 1,000 names it will be debated by the council.

Have a say on area's future

LANDOWNERS in Wolverton have pledged their commitment to its neighbourhood plan process.

The plans are designed to give local people more of a say in the places where they live and work.

The future redevelopment of Wolverton town centre will be discussed at a neighbourhood planning event next week.

There will be two public open meetings taking place at St George's Church at 7pm.

The first will take place next Tuesday and the second will be

on Friday, February 2 when consultants from The Princes Foundation for the Built Environment will feedback design options to the local community.

Marie Osborne, convener of Wolverton Steering Group, said: "It's a once in a lifetime chance to deliver change for Wolverton town centre and I would encourage everyone living and running a business in the town to get involved."

For more information visit www.futurewolverton.co.uk.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Academy's first art gala

HAZELEY Academy will host its debut art gala tomorrow. The event will incorporate the official opening of the public art sculptures, with a presentation by the creators. There will be a selection of art pieces, including paintings, prints, culture, ceramics and photography on display. The evening will start at 5.30pm and run until 7.30pm.

Celebrate the New Year

CHILDREN at Busy Bees Nursery joined in Chinese New Year celebrations by dressing up in the animal of the year they were born. They also make a dragon and had a parade and sampled some Chinese food. Nursery manager, Lorraine Harben, said: "This was a great opportunity for the children to learn about a different culture and their celebrations, especially one so rich in history."

Fine for abandoning car

A MAN was ordered to pay £625 in fines, costs and compensation on Friday after pleading guilty to dumping a car in Whites Croft, Leadenhall. Jean-Claude Ekoli of Swindon was identified as the registered owner but failed to remove the car in the seven-day notice period.



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Film hits big screen on city's birthday

A MOVIE about Milton Keynes had its premiere on the city's 45th birthday.

Viewed for the first time on Monday night, it packed out three screens at Cineworld at Xscape.

Set against a backdrop of seventies nostalgia and pioneering spirit, 3 Curly Wurlys and 106

Roundabouts is filmmaker Lee Scriven's take on the early days of the designated New Town.

Milton Keynes was formally designated as a new town on January 23, 1967.

Featuring a host of interviews with original city planners, combined with the opinions of some of the original city

dwellers, the two-hour documentary included fascinating archive footage and music from the era.

The film, which was produced in partnership with Milton Keynes City Discovery Centre, also includes interviews with MK NEWS' very own photographer Andy Handley.

Teenager 'sorry' for part in riots

BY SOPHIE SCOTT

editor@mk-news.co.uk

A 17-YEAR-OLD who took part in the summer riots has said that getting a job has 'changed his life'.

The boy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, stole a milkshake from Londis in Furzton and threw a chair in Corals bookmakers in Queensway, Bletchley.

The teenager was part of a 50-strong gang who took to the streets of Milton Keynes and Bletchley on August 9.

At Milton Keynes Youth Court

yesterday he said: "Thinking back now I know how much I have matured and changed my life. I pay taxes and I am a member of the community. I would be disgraced as I am sure the shop owners were. There are only so many times I can say sorry. But I would really like to forget it and carry on with my life. Working has changed my life."

Since the riot he has found a full-time job in Hertfordshire.

In mitigation his solicitor, Duncan Toole, said he had suffered in the month leading up to the trouble as a relative had

passed away. Mr Toole added that he was on the 'edge' of the group, did not know anyone there, and described other members of the mob as the 'dogiest people in Milton Keynes'.

He pleaded guilty to violent disorder at an earlier date and was handed a 12-month referral order and must pay £85 costs.

MK NEWS put in a request for the restrictions on identifying the youth to be lifted, but chairman of the magistrates, Gordon Whitfield, said it was not in the public interest as he did not have any previous convictions.

Ownership sparks debate

CONCERNS have been raised over Milton Keynes Council's plans to transfer community assets to other organisations.

As well as opening the idea up to consultation, five properties have been identified to use in a pilot scheme.

However, there was call for the

cabinet not to see asset transfer as an opportunity to withdraw completely from facilities.

Suggestions that the scheme might be a cost saving method were strongly denied.

The cabinet added the plans were not being rushed through in time for the budget.

Repair work to locks finished

REPAIR work on the popular Soulbury Three Locks was completed on Friday.

The two-week, £90,000 project to restore them to their former glory began on January 9 and was essential to keep canals and rivers accessible.

Jeff Whyatt, British Waterways' senior waterway manager, said: "At British Waterways we take pride in knowing that these renovation works go a long way to ensuring the public will be able to enjoy the waterways for many years to come."

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Knife point robbery

A MAN was threatened with a knife when walking home on Saturday night.

The suspect stopped the victim in the V7 Bletchley underpass on the H9 side just before midnight. He threatened him with a knife, demanding the victim's phone and wallet.

If you have any information call police on 101.

Woman found near gym

A WOMAN was found near to a gym on Sunday afternoon, with no idea how she got there.

The 21-year-old regained consciousness, with slight injuries, on North Row, CMK, near Virgin Active gym, at 1.40pm. If you have information call 101.

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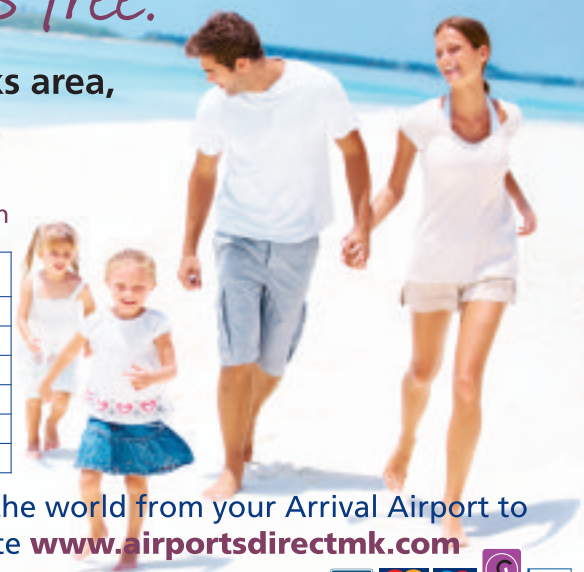
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Report highlights inspection failings

A MAN who 'blew the whistle' on maintenance failings on bridges in the city has spoken out.

George Harlock, who was made redundant from Mouchel last year, raised concerns with senior management at the company and Milton Keynes Council (MKC) in 2009.

His accusations triggered an internal report into the service.

Published last week, the report said 'national standards had not been adhered to' and Mouchel has not delivered in 'all aspects of the service paid for by MKC'.

Mr Harlock said: "There are a lot of problems with safety.

"I feel a sense of relief now and feel this vindicates me."

MKC's chief executive David Hill said: "The council does not have as much assurance about the safety of bridge structures as it should have. This is unsatisfactory, hence our action. The backlog of principal inspections and major maintenance should



Raising concerns: George Harlock at the bridge across the Grand Union Canal between Springfield and Woolstone

be cleared by March 2013, meanwhile the quality of the information available to the council about the safety of bridge structures continues to improve."

A statement from Mouchel reads: "As soon as Mouchel's senior management team was

made aware of the issues a joint Bridge Management Working Group was established to address concerns. We will be responding fully to the report."

British Waterways, which maintains the structures of canal foot bridges, did not comment.

Bridge delay shows 'deep' weaknesses

BY ADAM GRINSELL

adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

AN EXTERNAL report states there were 'deep' and 'embedded' weaknesses at Milton Keynes Council that led to the delay in opening Secklow Gate bridge.

The 32-page document, from Haines Watts Controls & Assurance, details failings and problems within the authority which led to the bridge being closed for 18 months after a fire, and will mean an overall repair bill of nearly £1million.

The report says that discussions with staff and a review of documents 'strongly suggests' the apparent cause of the delay was procrastination with regards to possibly redeveloping the area rather than repairing it.

The report's criticisms also include poor transparency from the council in communicating events surrounding the bridge to the public and councillors, and that lessons were not learned from a fire in the same area 12 years earlier.

The report was commissioned

by council leader Andrew Geary and Councillor Brian White, chairman of the audit committee.

In response, council chief executive David Hill said: "In this instance the council's processes were inadequate and we have learned important lessons, which have been re-emphasised by this latest investigation. I take this opportunity to apologise once more for the delay in reopening the bridge, to all those affected by the bridge closure, to local residents and businesses, and in particular to the market traders."

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M10783

The brakes are put on new traffic lights

BY ADAM GRINSELL

adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

TRAFFIC lights - which cost up to £20,000 to install - have been 'put on hold' as not as many cars are using the roads as expected.

The columns, which are situated on the approach to Fox Milne along V11 Tongwell Street and H6 Childs Way, as well as the H5 Portway on the approach to Pineham, have been covered over.

They were installed to control the flow of vehicles and allow buses to get to destinations faster in heavy traffic, as more drivers were expected in the area under the plans for the eastern expansion area.

But as the 8,000 houses are unlikely to be built in the near future the lights have been removed.

The cost to put the lights in at the three locations is estimated at between £15,000 and £20,000.

Milton Keynes Council insists, however, that they will be reinstalled at minimum cost when they are needed.

A council spokesman said: "These bus gates were put in at these sites in expectation of the 8,000 or so houses to be built in the eastern expansion area,



Given the red light: The traffic signals covered up next to the bus lane on H6 Childs Way by the Fox Milne roundabout

under the previous government's targets, and the anticipated knock on likely surge in traffic on these roads.

"However, due to the scrapping of these targets – and the general slowdown in the economy – it's unlikely these houses will be built in the near future.

"So as for the foreseeable future we won't have the traffic congestion that might slow down buses,

we don't need to interrupt car journeys to let the buses keep to their timetables.

"We will be making some minor modifications to the bus lanes, so they can still be used, but we are removing the signal heads to avoid confusion – and to save electricity in the long run. They will be relatively easy to reinstall however, at minimum cost, as and when they are needed."

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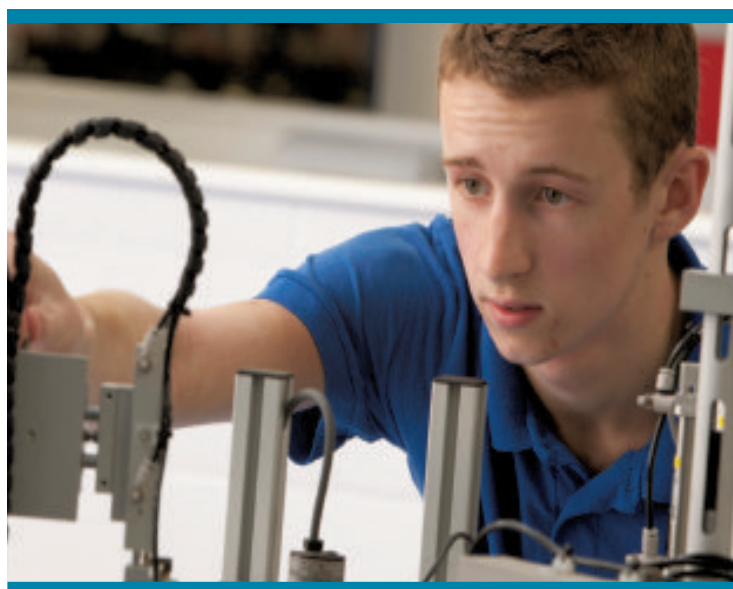
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Beauty salon helps centre

CHARITY can be beautiful - that's why these beauticians will be donating 40 per cent of their takings to the City Counselling Centre next week.

As reported last year by MK NEWS, the centre is one local charity that is having its funding reduced as Government cuts take hold at Milton Keynes Council, putting the service in jeopardy.

So Blissfully Young beauty salon, at Willen Lake, has pledged to help tomorrow and Friday.

Beautician Jane Young said: "One of the ladies that works at the centre was a client of mine last year and she told me about their funding going down."

There will also be a raffle and a three for two offer on treatments.

Caring: Staff at Blissfully Young, from left, Jane Young, Tara Cole, Jasmine Wallace and Stuart Lovell



Smoking ban bid gets stubbed out

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A DECISION against a proposed smoking ban on the streets of Stony Stratford is being hailed as a victory for human rights.

Chairman of Milton Keynes UKIP Stuart Moore, who organised a protest against town councillor Paul Bartlett's proposal when it was announced last year, is pleased Stony Stratford Town Council turned down the plan.

He said: "This is a good thing for common sense and I have always thought it was something that would be fought against for human rights and freedom of choice."

The proposal to ban outdoor smoking in parts of the town was overwhelmingly defeated last Tuesday night.

The motion from Cllr Bartlett received national attention in the summer after first being reported by MK NEWS.

Mr Moore's public protest even attracted UKIP leader Nigel Farage to the town.

But when the motion finally came before the town council, the vote was seven to one against the plan.

At the meeting, Cllr Bartlett said the council should go to consultation on the issue before it turned the motion down.

"We need to move forward and

consult," he said. "I urge people to think about this, have a consultation and if that says no it says no."

"We need to look at how we can protect people and promote Stony Stratford."

"That's my aim, that's why I've served the community for 25 years. That's why I moved here when first being elected councillor."

But his fellow councillors were unanimously against his proposal.

Cllr Deryck Tucker said: "My principle objection is it's anti-libertarian. I think it's a gross intrusion. If any minister of state has to confirm a by-law, I don't think there's a cat in hell's chance."

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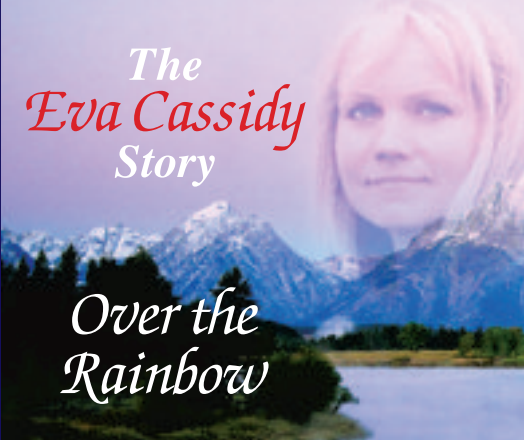
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Review after killer paid victim's cash

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A SERIOUS case review into the service caring for a 70-year-old murder victim has been heavily criticised for paying £900 a month to his killer after his death.

The review into Buckinghamshire County Council's adult social care team criticised the continued direct payments to Samuel Alexander between August 2009, when he was last heard from, and February 2010, when his body was found.

His son Mark, a law student, was found guilty of his murder after his dismembered remains were found in concrete in his garden in Prospect Place, Drayton Parslow.

As his carer, his son continued to receive the direct payments from the council to his father, who had multiple health care needs, after the murder.

Now a report by the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Board into the council's handling of Mr Alexander's case has found he was 'subject to an unduly light-touch reviewing process' and as



Grim discovery: Police found the remains of Samuel Alexander, *inset left*, at his home. He had been killed by his son Mark, *inset right*

such his death was not discovered.

It goes on to say that there were 'major shortcomings in the oversight of public funds by Buckinghamshire Adult Social Care. It appears that Mr C [Samuel Alexander] received direct payments which he did not use for the purposes intended. In turn, his son continued to access these monies'.

In response, Patricia Birchley,

Buckinghamshire's cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said the direct payment scheme is a 'real success story' and this one tragedy should not cloud the benefits of it.

She added: "The fact is, there's yet to be devised a benefit payment system which is fraudproof. But we do remain vigilant and will not hesitate to take decisive action if misuse of public money is discovered."

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Ken Clarke visits mediation centre

BY SOPHIE SCOTT
editor@mk-news.co.uk

JUSTICE Secretary Ken Clarke visited a mediation centre to see how it works when families go through a separation.

The MP met with clients and mediators at Focus Mediation, which is based in Silbury Boulevard, on Monday morning.

He was given a tour of the office and shown a 'role play' of the type of meeting clients have.

The professionally trained mediators work with couples and families to reach agreements when they separate or divorce.

He said: "I think my team have steered me to one of the best centres."

"Of the few people I have met it really strikes a chord and hasn't lessened my enthusiasm for trying to get more people to try to mediate their disputes."

"A court room isn't always the best way to sort out problems."

Mediation is an alternative to court, where couples work through their issues to make

arrangements both sides can agree with, rather than putting lawyers and a judge in charge of deciding what happens.

Stephen Foster, who is a civil lawyer, spoke to Mr Clarke about his experience of using the service.

He said: "It was very successful."

"We had about three or four sessions and that's all it took."

"We had to resolve property and financial issues and that sort of stuff."

"I am happy with the outcome."

Mr Clarke added: "Services such as Focus Mediation play a key role in the future of our family justice system and are especially effective where children are involved."

Rules introduced in April last year mean that separating couples now must complete a mandatory assessment to determine if mediation is a better option for them.

Mary Banham-Hall, mediator at Focus Mediation, said: "Mediation brings couples together in a neutral and non-hostile environment to improve communi-

cation and focus on any children's needs."

"The impartial mediator helps the couple to resolve their differences and settle child residence and contact, along with every aspect of their financial settlement in a thoughtful and co-operative way."

"It can be fast and cost effective and can achieve a huge saving in legal costs – plus people can start to solve their problems rather than fighting over them."



Success story: Stephen Foster, left, who has been helped by Focus Mediation with Justice Minister Ken Clarke at the centre on Monday

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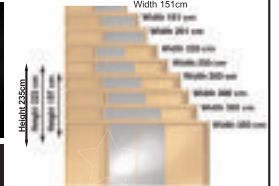


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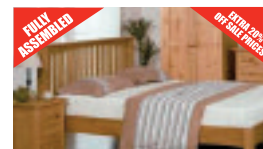
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SPORT RELIEF 2012

BY ADAM GRINSELL

adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

SPORT Relief is coming and everyone in the city has the chance to get involved and help thousands of people in Milton Keynes and across the world.

On Sunday, March 25, everyone in Milton Keynes is being asked to enter the Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile which will take place on Midsummer Boulevard.

The money you raise will be spent by Comic Relief to transform lives here in the city, as well as fund initiatives across the rest of the UK and in the world's poorest countries.

MK NEWS, in association with Sport Relief and MK Community Foundation, is distributing a £50,000 Sport Relief Community Cash fund to groups across the city - grants of £500 to £1,000 are available to small organisations that are doing great work to help local people living tough lives.

MK Community Foundation grants director Bart Gamber, who will sit on the panel with MK NEWS editor Cally Jenkins to decide where the grants will go, explained what kind of groups he is looking for.

He said: "We gave out £50,000 two years ago and had a tremendous response from more than 100 groups. In the end we made 65 grants, and lots of community work and projects were funded.

"The initiative is so we can help groups serving people who are disadvantaged in one way or another, but the criteria are general so lots of different groups can apply.

"There's a particular emphasis on small community groups with an income of less than £100,000 a year, that are looking to make a positive



contribution in their communities, that experience disadvantage of any kind.

"This could mean disability, age, unemployment, isolation or anything else that disadvantages a person.

"It's very exciting, and it's generat-

HOW TO APPLY

IF THIS sounds like you, make sure you apply for a Sport Relief Community Cash grant now by visiting www.mkcf.co.uk/Supporting-You/Grants/Sport-Relief-Community-Cash, where you will be asked to enter an e-mail address. An application form will then be e-mailed to you.

If you need to receive the form in a different format, call the Community Foundation grants team on 01908 690276, or visit MK Community Foundation, Acorn House, 381 Midsummer Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes. The deadline for applications is Friday, March 16. Applicants will be notified of the panel's decision after April 20.

ing a lot of enthusiasm in the community and volunteer organisations.

"I think this will be a natural complement to the sport-related events coming up this year such as the Olympics."

One of those 65 groups to benefit last time was Free Wheelers, based at Willen Lake South, which received £1,000.

Part of Tower Drive Day Centre for adults with learning disabilities, the Free Wheelers project has a large range of specially-adapted bikes to allow people with all sorts of disabilities to use them.

The people who use Free Wheelers have conditions such as Down's Syndrome and autism, as well as physical disabilities, and there are a range of bikes to suit everyone including wheelchair adapted bikes, go karts, tricycles and bikes with four wheels for maximum stability.

The project is led by a team of physiotherapists who help these people with their daily lives, and who organise regular bike rides to help them keep fit and get more fresh air.

The grant from Comic Relief helped them to fund a new side-by-side pedal bike as well as helmets and other equipment, and helped them pay for maintenance and upkeep of the bikes and storage costs.

Elissa Hough is one of the physios. She said: "The grant has been brilliant.

"We need around £3,000 to keep going, and the grant means we've been able to keep up with the payments for the bikes and the storage rent - we were thinking we may have had to move from where we are at Willen Lake."

Grab a grand



Free Wheelers: Service users and support staff enjoy a bike ride on the equipment that a grant from last year's Sport Relief helped to buy



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(Ofsted, Dec 2011)

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THE GRANT CRITERIA

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Constituted voluntary and community groups, registered charities and social enterprises benefiting the Milton Keynes area can apply, including those less than 12 months old.

Applicants must:

- Be based in the Milton Keynes Unitary Authority area
- Have a constitution
- Have a management committee of least three people
- Have a bank account requiring at least two unrelated cheque signatories to authorise payments
- Have relevant policies and safeguarding such as equal opportunities and CRB checks
- Have an annual income of less than £100,000
- Be run by local people to benefit local communities
- Local offices of national charities must have their own management committee, governing documents and bank account.

Grants will not be awarded to:

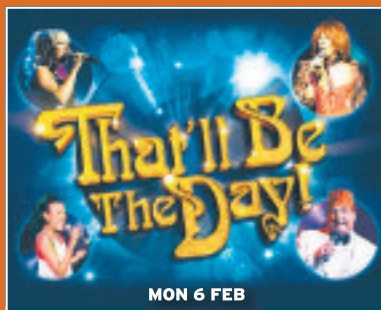
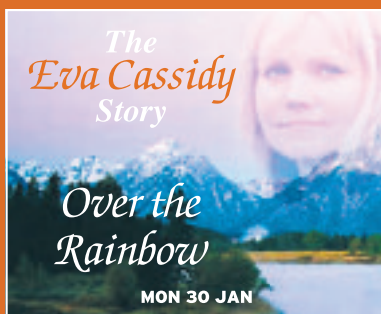
- Groups already that have received any Comic Relief funding in the last 12 months.
- Overseas travel/activities
- Buses/mini buses or other community transport schemes (though travel costs will be considered as part of a project)
- Building works, including access adaptations to premises
- Academic/medical research or equipment
- Retrospective funding requests (to support activities that have already taken place)
- Individuals
- Statutory organisations (such as schools, or primary care trusts)
- Commercial or for-profit organisations, other grant making bodies or groups that are not constituted.

So don't forget to do your bit and enter the Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile in Milton Keynes on Sunday, March 25 and keep raising cash to help change lives. Enter now at www.sportrelief.com.

Celebrity help: Boy band JLS are among the host of big names supporting Sport Relief



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Calls for high street to be 'regenerated'

BY ADAM GRINSELL

adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

REGENERATION and investment is being called for in one high street as it faces becoming home to another empty shop unit.

After the announcement that clothes retailer Peacocks has entered administration, fears that its store in Bletchley could close have led to Labour spokesman Andrew Pakes calling for support for the town's high street.

He believes, if the store in Queensway closes, it could be 'a further nail in the coffin' for the street.

He said: "If Peacocks goes it will leave another big gap in Bletchley."

"We've got the ongoing situation with the empty Co-op unit in the town too. Bletchley needs tender loving care at the moment."

"I think Milton Keynes city centre can take care of itself, and my worry is, as well as the possible job losses at Peacocks, another empty shop is not good news for the local economy."

Mr Pakes says he remembers visiting the town when he was



Calling for action: Andrew Pakes outside Peacocks in Bletchley

young, as there was a lot to attract shoppers.

He added: "We need greater focus on how to regenerate and get Bletchley town centre moving again."

"There's an urgent need for a plan to ensure the small high streets are as strong as possible to weather out the recession."

But he did say that he thought the current development to build a retail park at stadiummk could be good news for the town, rather

than damaging it further.

He said: "The town has a local offering and at the stadium it will be a much more regional destination."

"Expanding there will bring money into Milton Keynes and jobs to the Bletchley area, which then can be spent on the high street."

■ **What do you think? Does Bletchley need regenerating and if so, what can be done?**
E-mail editor@mk-news.co.uk

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Landlords homing in on new scheme

BY ADAM GRINSELL

adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A NEW scheme designed to raise standards of accommodation in the city has signed up its first three landlords.

Milton Keynes Council's (MKC) Landlord Accreditation Scheme, which will help tenants identify good private landlords, was launched recently to promote people who provide good quality, well managed accommodation.

Good landlords will get recognition for the housing they offer and the council will work closely with them to see what practical support it can give to further improve their service.

One of the landlords already signed up is Samantha Knight, owner of Affinity Lettings, who also trains other landlords in things like new health and safety regulations.

She says she has been lobbying the council to introduce such a scheme after seeing what a success it has become in other areas.

She said: "I've seen the improvement that schemes like this make to places.

"Where I've been training, there's a lack of knowledge, with landlords still doing things like



Signed up: Landlord Samantha Knight with her certificate

they were doing them 20 years ago.

"When there's nothing to make people keep up to date, then that's what they continue to do. This will raise the standards."

Jane Reed, MKC's assistant director of housing, said its ambition is that everyone in Milton Keynes has a decent place to live.

She added: "As the private rented sector becomes more and more important in terms of meeting ever increasing demand, it is vital that we build positive working relationships with landlords so that together we can provide confidence to the Milton Keynes public that properties in the private sector make good homes."

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Pupils get arty at gallery exhibition

BY ANNA MAUREMOTOO
anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

CHILDREN have been given the chance to demonstrate their artistic flare in an exciting new adventure by MK Gallery.

More than 100 children from four local primary schools got involved in the Great Art Quest and their artwork is now on display at the gallery.

The venue is one of only four galleries in the UK, including The Tate, to be involved in the scheme, which encourages budding artists to create their first masterpiece.

Emma Fry, head of learning at MK Gallery, said: "We were delighted to be selected by The Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts as one of only four major art centres in the UK taking part."

The children's work featured in a special preview evening on Thursday and forms part of a public exhibition in the gallery's Project Space.

Great Art Quest intro-

duced the Picassos of tomorrow to professional artists and storytellers.

Youngsters from Langland Community School and Water Hall, Ashton CE and Yardley Gobion CE primary schools had the opportunity to get to know the gallery through a series of visits where they were introduced to the work of British artist Anna Barriball.

Back in the classroom they worked with visual artist Edith Garcia and storyteller Yaw Asiyama, who helped the children to understand and respond to Barriball's work.

The pupils' work was inspired by various themes including myths and legends, explorers and inventors and the Olympics.

Julie Kemp, a teacher at Langland Community School, said: "The excitement of visiting a gallery, working with a professional artist and experiencing wonderful storytelling skills will enhance their own creativity in work across the curriculum."



Art attack: Emma Fry with some of the work done by the children at MK Gallery

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The Kaiser Chiefs
at The Living Room

Kaiser Chiefs cause a riot at surprise gig

POPULAR indie rock band the Kaiser Chiefs left audience members exclaiming 'Oh My God' when they played a one-off gig for 100 lucky people in the city. The internationally acclaimed band played a set of five songs during the surprise gig at The Living Room, including classics Ruby and I Predict a Riot. David Pugh, general manager of The Living Room, said: "It was a real privilege to host such an amazing and intimate gig. "We have known for a while but due to the Kaiser Chiefs' cult popu-

larity have had to keep it top secret." The crowd were eager to get involved in the event and sang along to all the well-known hits. The gig paves the way for a dedicated focus by the venue on music in 2012, with a line-up featuring up-and-coming as well as established artists. The bar hosts acts covering a wide range of genres each week. The Living Room's 15 Minute Club also takes place on the first Wednesday of every month from 8-11pm and offers a platform for new talent.

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SOLAR ELECTRICITY PANELS ON YOUR ROOF? IS THE RETURN ON INVESTMENT STILL TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

NOT IF YOU ACT BEFORE APRIL IT ISN'T!



With bank interest rates forecast to remain at historically low levels, it has become increasingly difficult for homeowners to receive a decent return on their savings. The problem remains that savers are being penalised in favour of borrowers, and that is likely to continue for some considerable time.

The Sunday Times, only recently, published a list of investments that do buck the trend, with investments that produce a good return even in times of punitively low interest rates. High on the list of excellent Return On Investments is Solar Electricity Panels.

There has been a deluge of publicity over the last few months regarding the Government's recent change of policy over the Feed In Tariff. For those unfamiliar with this scheme, the Government guarantees indexed linked payments for the next 25 years for each unit of electricity generated by the panels on your roof. That, together with savings on electricity bills, meant a Return On Investment that the Government considered to be too generous. As a result, they decided to lower the feed-in-tariff rate to make the subsidy more sustainable and spread the benefits to more homeowners.



WHAT LEVEL OF RETURN CAN YOU EXPECT?

So, is it now still an exciting investment? The short answer is a resounding YES. The actual Return On Investment is still a very healthy 10% to 15% in the majority of cases and sometimes even more.

Consider the following example:

A 4 kW Solar Panel System, which would normally consist of around 16 - 20 Solar Panels installed (dependent on output of panel) on your roof, would typically cost £10,375 incl VAT from T&K Solar.

The tax free Return On Investment in the first year, as a result of the Feed In Tariff and electricity savings, is forecast at 9%, but that is only the start. The Payback on the initial investment would be less than 9 years, but the best news is that over the 25 year period that the Government guarantees the indexed linked payments, you would make a total profit of over £40,000, giving a substantial average return on investment of almost 20%.

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YOU NEED TO ACT BEFORE 1ST APRIL

There is, however, a need for homeowners to get in on the act quickly. As part of the Government's Feed In Tariff review, they have decided that to qualify for the Feed In Tariff from 1st April 2012, then homes will need to have an energy assessment rating of C" or above, and most homes do not currently reach this level. As a result, after April 2012, you may need to carry out other costly energy saving home improvements, such as insulation products or PVC-U double glazed windows and doors, before you would be eligible to apply for the Feed In Tariff and receive the high Returns.

GET THE FACTS FROM THE EXPERTS

T&K Solar PV, being one of the leading local installers of Solar Panels, discovered that homeowners generally still have more questions than answers. To help solve this problem, you now have the opportunity to get the facts for yourself, in a series of informative one hour Fact Finding Demonstrations from a panel of Renewable Energy experts, as well as seeing a working model of the complete system in action. You will be able to ask any questions you like, and you will hear answers to the most Frequently Asked Questions.

The Expert Panel conducting the Demonstrations include an independent Supply Chain Director, representing one of the world's leading Panel producers; a local Renewable Energy Expert and a Solar Electrical Design Engineer, and topics covered can include, among any others:

- Is this a genuine investment and are the Government payments really guaranteed for 25 years?
 - What is the Feed In Tariff and how can you make a profit from it?
 - Will this seriously reduce your carbon emissions?
 - Will a Solar PV system increase the value of your home?
- How much money will you save on Electricity bills?
- What happens if you move house before the 25 year guaranteed payments period?
- Why you must use a MCS registered installer, governed by an independent Regulatory body?
- Are all Solar Panels all the same as each other, and are some Panels better value for money than others?

The Fact Finding Demonstrations will take place at the T&K Exhibition Centre on Saturday 28 January 2012 at 12 noon and 2pm, and on Sunday 29 January at 11am and 1pm, and homeowners can reserve as many places as they wish. The Demonstrations are



completely free of charge, and there will be no heavy pressure selling and you are not under any obligation whatsoever.

**To book your free place(s)
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See A Working Model

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at Willen Lake will
return this
summer



Boat race set to be a fiery battle

BY ANNA MAUREM00T00
anna.maurem00t00@mk-news.co.uk

WITH celebrations for the Chinese New Year on Monday there was no better time to launch the 11th Milton Keynes Dragon Boat Festival.

The 2012 festival, which coincides with the Year of the Dragon, will take place on Sunday, June 24 on Willen Lake. It will be raising money for Willen Hospice, which provides care to individuals from the age of 18 with life-limiting illnesses.

Paul Hinson, Willen Hospice's chief executive, said: "This annual event is a fantastic, fun group activity which will bring together the community of Milton Keynes to help raise much-needed and vital funds for Willen Hospice."

This eagerly anticipated event will see up to 60 crews battling it out on the 200m race course.

As well as fiery competition

on the water, teams will be aiming to beat last year's impressive fundraising total of more than £20,000.

The top fundraisers will win the charity trophy, plus a special meal courtesy of The Swan in Salford.

No previous experience is required to take part in the race and the dragon boats, qualified helms and all racing equipment will be provided.

Carol Lester, director of festival organisers Gable Events, said: "We expect the festival to be as popular as ever so we recommend teams get their entries in early to guarantee a place."

For those who prefer a more leisurely Sunday, the festival offers plenty of activities on the lakesides.

For further information and an entry form visit www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk/miltonkeynes, or call 01780 470718. To find out more about Willen Hospice call 01908 306991, or visit www.willenhospice.org.uk

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MKSCHOOLS

WELCOME to MK NEWS' new schools page.

Every month we will be featuring the latest news from all the schools in the area, whether it's events, exam results or issues facing teachers and pupils.

And we want to hear from you - if you are a teacher, parent or student and have something you think we should be reporting, then get in touch.

We will also be featuring columns and comment pieces about school life, student initiatives and national issues which will affect your school.

So if you want to have your say, or are a budding journalist and want to tell us about what's happening at your school, e-mail adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk.

'Buzz' about top marks in school report

A CITY school has been named in the top three per cent of schools in the country.

In the Government's annual league table figures, Shenley Brook End School is listed in the top 100 schools, out of 3,127 nationally, for student progress from age 11 to GCSE level.

Headteacher Glen Martin thinks the results reflect the school's focus on leadership.

He said: "The GCSE results last year were the best in our history - a lot of the students exceeded their and our expectations and targets."

"After we found out, there was a really good buzz for the staff."

"They have put in an incredible amount of effort in supporting the students."

"I use a term that we are a school of

leaders - we concentrate on leadership everywhere, with the teachers and the students.

"The teachers are leaders in the areas they have autonomy in, and there is a leadership system for the students, where we give them the responsibility to lead either in the class or outside, for example on our extensive Duke of Edinburgh programme."

Deputy headteacher Chris Holmwood said extra work outside the classroom, such as a forthcoming 120-student production of *The Wizard of Oz*, is key to academic achievements.

He said: "We are not obsessed with league tables."

"They are the by-product of what we do, not the focus, which is the students."



Buzz: Shenley Brook End School headteacher Glen Martin

"The outside aspect of their learning is a big part of what we do."

"The news is a fantastic measure and great achievement, but it's not the soul focus of what we do."

"I believe why the students have done so well is their learning has increased outside the classroom and that's what effects what happens inside the classroom."

MKSCHOOLBRIEFS

Radcliffe celebrations

IT'S good news at The Radcliffe School after it improved in its most recent Ofsted report.

After its last inspection in October 2009 the school was judged to be 'good' - the second highest rating - in all aspects of its work other than the sixth form, which was 'satisfactory'.

But in its new report the sixth form and all other aspects of the school were judged to be good and it now also has 12 judgements of outstanding - the best possible rating.

Back to the classroom

MORE than 30 local employers went back to school recently to help young people understand more about the world of work.

About 180 Year Ten students from Milton Keynes Academy, based in Leadenhall, recently spent time with people from a range of Milton Keynes-based firms, including Network Rail, Serco and Audi UK.

Inspirational teaching

SMALL class sizes and inspirational teaching are being hailed as the reason for high performance at Stoke Goldington CE First School's Early Years Foundation Stage - one of the highest performing of its kind in the area, according to a new report by Milton Keynes Council.

Headteacher Kathryn Crompton said: "This reinforces our ethos that small village schools have so much to offer children in terms of one-to-one learning and a nurturing atmosphere."

Expansion gets thumbs up

PLANS to expand Brookland Farm Primary School have been agreed by Milton Keynes Council.

Usually a school has to be rated outstanding by Ofsted inspectors to qualify, but because the school is so new it has not had a report.

However, Councillor Andrew Dransfield, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "I'm satisfied that this is a school that would be judged outstanding if it was inspected so it fits within the category that I would say should satisfy expansion."

The school has celebrated suc-

cesses with pupils attaining grades higher than the national average in reading, writing and maths in 2010 and 2011.

Despite these accomplishments the school is confident it could be even better and believes the expansion would help it develop.

It has already had 42 applications for the 30 places available in the new reception class in September.

It is hoped planning permission will be granted by the end of October so that building work can start in September 2013.

Pupils bid a fond farewell



Goodbye: Doreen Allen with some of the students at Germander Park

A MUCH-LOVED teaching assistant had a special assembly in her honour on Friday as she retired after 21 years.

Students, parents and teachers at Germander Park School in Conniburrow said goodbye to

Doreen Allen, 61, who has worked at the school in many different roles, including dinner lady and parent helper.

She said: "It was really lovely, but I found it very emotional. I've got so many happy memories."

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Swimmer looks to reunite team

A SWIMMER is hoping to reunite with her former record-breaking teammates.

Sarah Griffiths is pictured here with the Stantonbury Swimming Club almost 20 years ago.

These team members still hold the record for the highest number of lengths swum in the Milton Keynes Rotary Club's Swimathon.

Now teaching in Sussex, she is returning to Milton Keynes on March 10 to take part in this year's event.

She is trying to get in touch with everyone in the photo, and, as the club disbanded towards the end of the 1990s, is asking people in the city to let her know if they recognise anyone.

Since its launch it has raised more than £350,000 for local and Rotary charities.



If you want to know more about the team or can identify anyone email Bill Griffiths on bill.griffiths@mkmuseum.org.uk

And if you require any more information on the Swimathon go to www.rotary-milton-keynes.org

Worker is threatened outside supermarket

A SUPERMARKET employee has been threatened with a screwdriver.

The 19-year-old left Asda to use the cash machine outside at about 1.20am on Sunday.

Afterwards he turned to return to the store and was

approached by a man who asked him why the store was closed.

The victim replied and carried on walking, when the suspect threatened him and demanded he hand over his belongings.

The victim ran into the store.

Nothing was stolen and he was not injured. The man is white, around 5ft 8ins, about 26 years old and slim. He was wearing a black woollen hat, thigh-length hooded coat and possibly jeans.

Anyone with information should call the police on 101.

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Ice star skates at Europeans

A YOUNG figure skating sensation has been given the chance to take to the ice at the European Championships.

Eight-year-old Miesha Cooke Smith, pictured, was selected to be a flower girl at the prestigious event which is running this week in Sheffield.

The Heronsgate Primary School pupil will collect gifts thrown onto the ice for skaters and was the only MK Ice Skating Club member to be chosen.

A time to reflect on memorial day

BY ANNA MAUREMOTOO
anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

PEOPLE in the city are asked to spare a moment to remember the victims of the Holocaust.

Friday marks the 67th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp.

And on Thursday Milton Keynes Holocaust Memorial Day

Steering Group will be hosting an event at the Church of Christ the Cornerstone at Saxon Gate West.

The Rev David Moore, who will be leading the service, said: "We want the memory of the Holocaust to be remembered, we forget it at our peril."

This year's theme is 'Speak up, speak out', asking people to challenge discriminatory behaviour.

MP Iain Stewart will be at the event encouraging people to sign the Holocaust Memorial Day pledge.

Andrew Pakes, Holocaust Memorial Day trustee, will be in London on Thursday alongside more than 200 survivors.

He said: "It's not just a lesson in history; it's about speaking out about atrocities today."

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Reach for the stars

BUDDING astronomers can spend an evening under the stars at Bletchley Park's StarGazing live.

The event follows the BBC series StarGazing Live 2012, produced in partnership with The Open University.

Event organiser Daniel Dyer said: "We welcome everyone from enthusiasts to people who just want to know what the constellation was that was mentioned by their dad."

Astronomers will be on hand to offer advice and a Stargazing LIVE Star and Moon guide full of top tips for exploring the wonders of the night sky.

Not even cloudy skies will cast a shadow over the events as astronomers will be giving a selection of short talks and indoor activities will be available.

The event is free and parking is available from 6.30pm.

Those who want to take space exploration further can also visit the OU website OpenLearn, which offers more of an insight into the solar system.




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PLUS

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Find out what is on
and when this week

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www.stables.org**the stables****Wednesday 25 January, 8pm****TIGRAN HAMASYAN**

Incredibly talented young jazz pianist, hailed by Herbie Hancock and Trilok Gurtu as "the next Keith Jarrett."

Tickets £15**Friday 27 January, 8pm****EDITH PIAF: CELEBRATION OF A LEGEND**

Featuring Tina May & Her Musicians bringing to life the music of France's beloved national icon and musical legend.

Tickets £16**Sunday 29 January, 8pm****AN EVENING WITH DANNY & BEN FROM THUNDER**

Stripped-down acoustic versions of Thunder tunes plus their favourite cover versions.

Tickets £17.50**Wednesday 1 February, 8pm****THE DORIC STRING QUARTET**

Featuring repertoire from Haydn, Schubert and Korngold. Free pre-concert talk at 7pm.

Tickets £12.50, £17.50, students £5**Thursday 2 February, 8pm****PATRICIA ROUTLEDGE**

In conversation with Edward Seckerson. Patricia discusses the highlights of her career in musical theatre here and in the USA.

Tickets £16, £17.50**01908 280800**

Booking fee of £2.60 per transaction applies to all telephone sales

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THE billing makes it sound like a fight and the song sounds like one too, with the Utah Saints unfortunately losing heavily.

As soon as the beat kicks in it becomes painfully obvious how events are going to pan out.

At a brisk running time of two minutes and 41 seconds this 're-imagined' version is nearly a full minute shorter than the 1991 original, but that could be because it's a lot easier to cut to the chase when you decide not to worry about awkward things like melodies and structure.



Trouble is, in doing so, the shattered remains of a once-proud tune have been shoehorned into yet another song that seems to assume that if the beat goes boom boom crash, boom boom-boom crash then everything else will fall into place nicely.

There's a reason why the Utah Saints' early output is remembered so fondly 20 years after it came out and it's probably the same reason why this remix will hopefully be forgotten 20 minutes after it drops out of the Top 40.

COMEBACK KID**Sligh Bells**

WELL now, this is much more like it.

The first 20 seconds sound like a guitarist being shot at and then things get even more interesting once the song gets going.

The guitarist definitely survives

the opening bars because he's all over the song like a shaken-up soft drink.

Not only that, there's also a keyboard riff - it's only three notes, but it's definitely there.

Then there's the singer; Alexis

Krauss has, on the face of it, a voice that should be far too soft to make herself heard over the noise and yet there she is,

not only holding her own, but apparently doing so with ease.

What Can You Do For Me (the remix, at any rate) is supposed to be danced to, but if I had any sense of rhythm whatsoever I'd be dancing to this instead.

Comeback Kid really is as good as that.

**THE STABLES****01908 280800**

THE Stables is bringing a taste of France to Milton Keynes this week with Edith Piaf - A Celebration of A Legend.

Award-winning vocalist Tina May and Her Musicians bring to life the music of one of France's greatest international stars, Edith Piaf.

The UK jazz singer captures the magic of a cultural icon that became widely regarded as one of France's most popular singers of the fifties and sixties.

The night will feature world renowned classics such as La Vie En Rose, Hymne à L'Amour, Milord and Non, Je Ne Regrette Rien in what promises to be a hypnotic performance.

Tina is no stranger to French music having performed extensively in the country, including the summer festival in Les Arcs with director Jean Lacorne and an entirely French cast in workshop Lady In the Dark.

Her astonishing vocal ability and hypnotic stage presence has won her worldwide acclaim. She has recorded several albums on the 33 Records label and worked with Dylan Fowler, Bosco d'Oliveira and Nathan Riki Thomson.

Tina recently released the long awaited follow-up to the highly successful album Live in Paris. No More Hanky Panky features Tina's regular French-based group co-led by pianist Patrick Villanueva.

The show will take place on Friday at 8pm. Tickets cost £16.

For full Stables listings, visit www.stables.org.**CRAUFURD ARMS****THE CRAUFURD SESSIONS**

Saturday, 7.30pm

THE Craufurd Sessions kicks off 2012 with a next generation showcase of five new, exciting, young high-energy hardcore/punk acts from in and around MK.

They include Dashwood, pictured, a new band that wanted a way to vent, express and release a collective aggression.

They play fast and aggressive hardcore punk heavily influenced by old school bands such as Black Flag but with clear modern influences like Converge, Ceremony and Trash Talk to name but a few.

They play music that they would enjoy hearing and playing.

The session will also feature



Hindsight, an alternative melancholic punk group from Slough - a new band with a massive buzz about them.

Also playing on the night will be End Result, a four-piece hardcore band from the city with influences derived from thrash and hardcore, such as Violation, Foundation, Harms Way, Metallica, Dead End

Path, Life of Agony, Slayer and Backtrack.

Also see Kian Vaziri, a new MK-based teenage singer/songwriter and musician.

Kian's band blends hip hop beats with rock guitars, a hint of grungy dirty effects and high quality grooves, laying the perfect foundation for Kian's heart-felt, passionate vocals and lyrics. Influences include bands and artists such as Nirvana, Jimmy Hendrix, Lenny Kravitz and many more.

Finally on the bill will be Minot Setback, a new 90s-styled MK hardcore band making their sessions debut.

Tickets cost £5 on the door.

MKLIFE THEATRE GALLERY EVENTS

MK THEATRE

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CHOIR OF THE YEAR

Sunday, February 5, 9am and 2.45pm

SOME of the best singing groups in the country will be flexing their vocal chords at Milton Keynes Theatre in a BBC competition.

A wide range of musical styles will be demonstrated, with Bach, Barbershop, Mozart and Glee all expected to be on display.

The hopeful groups will feature both children and adults, and Buckinghamshire School Choir are one of the entrants.

Everyone will be trying to impress a panel of expert judges to make it through to the semi-

final of the BBC's Choir of the Year contest.

Presenter and singer Rebecca Lodge hosts the event and there will be plenty of opportunities for members of the public to get involved and try out some singing too.

The Choir of the Year Competition is the largest competition of its kind in the UK, attracting the very best singing groups who compete for the accolade.

Opening rounds are held at venues across the UK and it all builds up to a grand final at the

Royal Festival Hall in London in October. This will be recorded and broadcast by the BBC in a special Choir of the Year 2012 programme on BBC Four.

To add to the drama, a panel of expert judges will give live feedback on the performances and only the very best will be given the chance to go through.

Tickets per session cost £10 (concessions £7) and all-day tickets are £16 (concessions £10).

They are available from the theatre's box office on 0844 8717652, or www.atgtickets.com/miltonkeynes.

MK GALLERY

SCRATCH NIGHT

Tomorrow, 6.30pm

AT SOME point everybody has drifted off and started randomly scribbling something on a notepad and now there's the chance to prove that you're a doodle pro.

The Draw or Die event allows aspiring Tony Harts to pitch themselves against each other on overhead projectors, drawing a random subject.

Winners are decided on the reaction of the audience and prizes and refreshments are both included.

The event is free, but those wanting to attend should e-mail MIntern@MKGallery.org to register their interest.

FRIDAY NIGHT FILM - A MAN ESCAPED (U)

EXHIBITOR Daria Martin has selected this 1956 drama/thriller which has been directed by Robert Bresson and written by Michael Brooke.

French Resistance activist Andre Devigny is imprisoned by the Nazis and devotes his waking hours to planning an elaborate escape. Then, on the same day, he is condemned to death and given a new cell mate.

Should he kill him, or risk revealing his plans to someone who may be a Gestapo informer?

The film will be shown at 6.30pm on Friday. Tickets cost £5, (concessions £3) from 01908 676900.



DARIA MARTIN: SENSORIUM TESTS

Until April 8

DARIA'S first solo exhibition is a selection of short 16mm films made over the last ten years, including the premier of an ambitious new work, Sensorium Tests.

Her work combines elements of painting, sculpture, performance art, dance, music and science.

THE BUSZY

TATTOO

Friday, 8pm-2am

THIS month's Buszy Presents is dedicated to the Art of Tattoo.

The Presents nights are designed to provide a platform for the unsigned, unknown and unrealised creators to get instant feedback from the audience.

This month the Art of Tattoo takes centre stage with an exhibition of live body art from local artists and a tattoo-based photography and art exhibition.

There will also be screenings of skate movies, an exhibition of turntableism and live music performances from Pings, Hackman, Fokus and Ernest Herb.

Tickets to the event, which is suitable for those aged 18 and over, cost £2.

For more details, visit www.thebuszy.com.



the Olympic Games in London.

Not this year's Olympic Games but the other one in 1948 when the athletes had to bring their own towels.

Free activity sheets are given to each child at performances.

Suitable for children aged four years old and over.

Tickets cost £7.50 for adults, £5.50 for children, or £22 for a family from the box office on 01908 324422, or www.stantonbury.org.uk.

STANTONBURY THEATRE

GREAT GRAN'S GREAT GAMES

Saturday, February 4, 2.30pm

GET your snorkel and goggles ready to have a splashing good time at Stantonbury Theatre.

Following from the massive successes of Laura's Star and The Big Enormous Present, Pied Piper return with a new play to celebrate London Olympics 2012.

Specially written by award-winning playwright Mike Kenny, Ollie can't see the point of his Great Gran.

Now it has become even worse, she fell and hurt her hip and has come to stay and Ollie has had to give up his room.

And what can she do?

She can't run, jump, skate, anything. She can hardly stand.

However, she can do something he can't, she can swim. In fact, she can do it rather well.

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MKLIFE | **FILM REVIEW** | **HEART FM**

FILM REVIEW



The Descendants

THE DESCENDANTS (15)

Synopsis: A man is faced with two life changing events at once

Who's in it: George Clooney, Shailene Woodley, Beau Bridges

GEORGE Clooney is an A-list actor so he will always get people to the cinema in big numbers, even for his less than impressive work.

If you're one of those who flops to everything he appears in then you will be thrilled to know that you won't have to pretend that The Descendants is any good - it really is a good watch.

In fact, most people would probably enjoy this comedy drama directed by Alexander Payne.

Clooney stars as Matt King, a wealthy landowner and lawyer in Hawaii whose wife ends up in a coma following a water-skiing accident.

King does the honourable thing and devotes himself to his stricken wife and two kids, but things change dramatically when he learns that his wife was having an affair at the time of her mishap.

There's more on his plate too as greedy relatives are urging him to sell his land to local developers, not really what you need at a time of personal tragedy.

It's an excellent performance by Clooney who excels as the film effortlessly blends the contrasting emotions of heartbreak and hilarity.

Payne's portrayal of basic human feelings was superb in his last film Sideways, and although that was seven years ago he hasn't lost the touch.

Based on a book by Kauai Hart Hemming, The Descendants tugs on the heart strings with moments of beautiful melancholy but it also makes us laugh with jokes and slapstick.

There's an excellent soundtrack courtesy of authentic Hawaiian artists, and although some may find it a little too depressing, for many The Descendants will resonate deeply.

On this evidence we can forgive Payne for waiting seven years between films.

Rating: 8/10

A MONSTER IN PARIS

Synopsis: 3D animation about a monster's love for a nightclub singer

Who's in it: Vanessa Paradis, Bob Balaban, Adam Goldberg

THERE are loads of animated films vying for attention these days so anything new is going to have to be fairly good to stand

out from the crowd.

A Monster In Paris is predictably an effort from across the channel in France and as is fashionable right now is brought to us in 3D.

When two scientists conduct an unwise experiment which unwittingly creates a seven-foot-tall flea, all hell breaks loose in the French capital.

The giant bug sets itself free among a terrified public but the film doesn't turn into a classic monster movie - in fact it becomes quite sensitive.

Singer Lucille bumps into the flea and realises he isn't actually that bad, in fact, he's fairly gentle and not bad on the guitar.

It's generally well animated, although the 3D is disappointing in places, and the voice cast is strong.

A Monster in Paris is a nice, heart-warming tale which the kids will clearly love, but we never emotionally connect with the characters and the plot can be sketchy.

The bar has been set extremely high for animation and this just fails to clear the height.

Rating: 5/10

■ For showing times of these films, plus others, visit www.mk-news.co.uk

HEART FM COLUMN

BREAKFAST show presenters Stuart and Natalie wake you up each weekday morning on Heart FM and write for you in MK NEWS.

We were hooked to the recent Golden Globes, mainly because with Ricky Gervais at the helm you never quite know what you're going to get.

In the end it was a lot less controversial than the headline grabbing performance he gave last year.

Ricky opened the ceremony with a list of rules he'd been given.

"The Hollywood foreign press have warned me that if I insult any of you, or any of them or offend any viewers or cause any controversy, they'll definitely invite me back next year," he said.

"They gave me a list of rules - no profanity, that's fine I've got a huge vocabulary."

"No smut or innuendo and I mustn't libel anyone and I mustn't mention Mel Gibson this year."

He went on to say: "The Golden Globes are to the Oscars what Kim Kardashian is to Kate Middleton, a

bit louder, a bit trashier, a bit drunker and more easily bought."

He referred to Johnny Depp as the man who will 'wear anything Tim Burton tells him to' before saying: "Who needs the Oscars? Not me and not Eddy Murphy." Stuart has said he thinks that after Ricky the Globes need to get someone inoffensive, what about a Blue Peter presenter?

Have a look at all the pictures at www.heart.co.uk.

You can also see pictures of Kelly Osborne's blue rinse.

What was she thinking? And don't miss our Who's On Heart competition each day.

If you can identify our three secret celebrities you could win more than £16,000.

Stuart and Natalie present Heart Breakfast, Monday to Friday, from 6-10am on Heart 103.3FM.



Leisure or events news? e-mail editor@mk-news.co.uk

MKLIFE | WHAT'S ON | COMEDY

DAILY LIFE

TOMORROW

STONYWORDS!8. Dickens and the Pre-Raphaelites. A talk by Professor William Prescott on the bi-centenary of Charles Dickens' birth. Stony Stratford Library, 7pm. The event is free but tickets are required. Contact 01908 562562.

BEAUTY for Charity Fundraising Event. Blissfully Young, LA Fitness, Willen Lake, is offering discounts on selected beauty and spa treatments. Forty per cent of takings to the Milton Keynes City Counselling Centre. Details at www.citycounsellingcentre.org.uk. To book, call 01908 969516. Also on Friday.

FRIDAY

STONYWORDS!8. A host of talent pays homage to song writer Jackson Brown at Running on Empty at The White Horse, Stony Stratford. Starts at 8.30pm.

MK MANGA Club Meeting. 2012 is the Year of the Dragon. The Chinese New Year was on Monday and to celebrate activities at the meeting will relate to the event. New members welcome, no ticket required, 6-7.45pm, CMK library.

NEED some chill out time after a busy week? Yoga relaxation and stretch at St Michael's Church, OU Campus, 6-7.30pm. For more information call 01908 218915, or email hypnomk@googlemail.com.

STONYWORDS!8. Bard to Verse8, Bull Hotel, Stables Bar. The Speakeasy people are back from 8pm. All styles of poetry are welcome; just email marin@writerbrock.co.uk if you want to perform.

SATURDAY

MK RAMBLERS meet at 10am in the car

park in Newport Pagnell at the back of the medical centre for a seven-mile circular walk. For more details call 01908 607215.

TABLE Top Sale, Sherington Village Hall. Raising funds for community pre-school. Pop along to grab yourself a bargain, books, cakes, toys and even some garden goodies. From 10am-1.30pm.

SUNDAY

MK RAMBLERS' ten-mile circular walk from Lavendon taking in part of the Milton Keynes Boundary Walk. Meet at Lavendon War Memorial at 10am. Bring packed lunch. No dogs. More details from 01908 606595.

LUNCHTIME live music at Woughton Leisure Centre, free entry, families welcome. This week rock covers band Spaced Out, from 1-4pm.

STONYWORDS!8. Jim Loach's thought-provoking Oranges and Sunshine is being shown at The Cock Hotel - a film about the deportation of children in care to Australia, starring Emma Watson. Starts 7pm, tickets cost £5 (£3 for concessions) and are available from the hotel.

OPEN Night - Rotary Club of the Brickhills. The club is having a party as they have fun raising money for the local, national and international community, plus they have 420 trees to plant. Help wanted. From 7pm at DoubleTree by Hilton, stadiummk. More information is available at www.brickhillsrotary.co.uk

MONDAY

STONYWORDS!8. Gardening Women, a talk

by Catherine Horwood about her book at The Cock Hotel at 7.30pm. She will set the record straight on the overlooked lives of female gardeners. For tickets email gifford11@btconnect.com, or call 01908 562025. Costs £5, proceeds to Willen Hospice.

TUESDAY

PUSHCHAIRS in the Park. Enjoy Howe Park Wood with The Parks Trust. Meet in the car park off H7 Chaffron Way, 10am, free.

SHERINGTON Pre-school open morning, Sherington Village Hall, 9.30-11.30am. See first hand how they cater for you and your child's individual needs in their first steps into active learning. More details at www.sherington.org.

WEDNESDAY

OPEN Film Society. Women Without Men. Set in Teheran during the 1953 CIA coup, this visually dense and highly allegorical work tells of four women whose lives become intertwined with one another and the fate of their country. Showing at 6.15 and 8.45pm. More details at www.openfilmsociety.co.uk.

YOGA Meditation. Chanting and relaxation at Portfields Community Centre, Newport Pagnell, 8-9pm. For more information call 01908 218915, or email hypnomk@googlemail.com.

STONYWORDS!8. The festival ends with the Literary Stuff Quiz at the Cock Hotel, 7.30pm. Keeping with tradition, the questions will be written by last year's winners. Entry costs £5 for a team of four to six. Email gifford11@btconnect.com, or call 01908 562025 for tickets.

STADIUMMK



Brendan Dempsey

RED CARD COMEDY CLUB

Friday, doors 8pm

THE club makes its first trip to stadiummk in 2012 with four side shakingly funny comics.

Multi-talented stand-up Joseph Wilson will take to the stage with his energetic and physical style, which has impressed audiences from New York to London.

Also performing is Simon Bligh, who is known for his hilarious story-telling and acute observations.

George Egg will bring a large dose of originality to the proceedings with his unusual and innovative comic style.

Expect him to bound onto the

stage with a briefcase packed full of ridiculous props and be sure to strap yourself in for a superbly entertaining ride.

Last, but not least, is Brendan Dempsey, who has embarked on a career round the world, which has seen him work in the worlds of both television and film.

Brendan has been seen on the big screen in films including Waking Ned, About Adam and Gangs of New York and in two BAFTA award-winning television comedies - Father Ted and The Revenge Files of Alistair Furry.

Tickets cost £12 from www.redcardcomedyclub.com.

Leisure or events news? e-mail editor@mk-news.co.uk | phone 01908 689595

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WHAT PEOPLE WANT



Quality Time

Is time ticking away? Look inside to see how people spend their time. pg08

Social Life

A real guide to what the current trends are in the social world. pg07

Dreams

What dreams may come, we look at what people most dream of pg02



A 8 page guide to the must haves in your life

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YOUR DREAMS

Everyone has dreams and aspirations. Some are of the far fetched fantasy variety, which usually involve an unlimited supply of cash, countless mansions and luxurious sports cars.

Funding the extravagant lifestyle in most people's imaginations is a bumper Lottery payout. Do you play the Lottery? If not, why not have a little flutter once in a while to enhance the possibility of landing a multi-million pay out? Odds are slim but you've got to be in it to win it.

Only a fortunate few will scoop the jackpot but that doesn't have to be the end of dreams. Dreams can be aspirational.

Why shouldn't you have things you dream of? It might just be that you are not able to have everything that you want exactly when you want it.

How do you go about chasing your dreams? Planning is everything. Be realistic and set yourself goals and targets (most tend to relate to saving money) en route to fulfilling the ultimate dream.

The obvious advice is to cut out life's little luxuries. Instead of popping in to Starbucks for that skinny vanilla latte once a week why not put that money to one side? If you kick

your coffee shop habit you could save yourself money each month which would go nicely towards that holiday fund.

Another way to save the pennies (and the pounds will save themselves) is to take a shopping list every where you go. If you stick to the list it will cut any impulse buying and soon you will be able to live the dream by wandering around in a robe being pampered and drinking champagne - even if it is only for the one day at a five-star spa retreat.

If your dream is to be a Formula One superstar why not try the next best thing? Race tracks up and down the country offer once in a lifetime opportunities to experience the thrills and spills of motor racing in specially designed race cars.

Although it will not be the same as Lewis Hamilton taking his McLaren for a spin, it is the closest the average Joe can get to the Formula One lifestyle. Dreams can come true...

YOUR CAREER

The job market is a daunting place at the moment. On top of those who are unemployed, you now have the New Year Resolutionists who are looking for a career change, so finding for your next role can seem like an uphill battle.

But never fear - finding your perfect job, or even just making it onto the next rung in the ladder, can be achieved with a little bit of elbow grease combined with a lot of salesmanship.

There are loads of recruitment agencies out there, some specialist and some not, so print off dozens of CVs and try to personally visit each one. Once you are on their system they will start matching your skills, but don't leave it to fate.

Keep harassing the recruitment agents, make sure they know your face and remember your name so you are the first person they think of when they have a new position to fill.

But companies always appreciate the personal approach. If you want a specialist job and have some companies in mind, go and knock on their door. Try and find out who the person in charge is and hand your CV to them face-to-face. Or, if it has to be left with the front desk, find an e-mail address or

telephone number for the right person and ask the next day whether they got your resume. This will get you noticed, and even if they don't have a job available, yours will be the first name on the list when they do. And when it comes to the all-important interview, don't stress.

Dress for success. Gents, a black or dark blue suit with a plain white shirt and red tie projects confidence, professionalism and an 'I know what I'm doing' attitude. Ladies, the same colour trouser suit with a plain white blouse will do the trick.

Always introduce yourself with a firm hand shake, and make sure to do your research on the company first. Don't just read the website, have a look at customer reviews, ensure you know what products and services the company offers. This is so you can not only ask lots of questions, which is a must-do, but also suggest improvements and changes you would make when you start in the role. And above all, always smile.




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YOUR FINANCES

A Cree Indian Proverb tells us 'Only when the last tree has died and the last river been poisoned and the last fish been caught will we realise we cannot eat money'.

And it's true, money isn't the be all and end all. It can't buy you happiness - but it certainly helps.

You may not be the next Sir Alan Sugar - or even his latest apprentice - but there are many ways to be clever with your cash. Even ever-so slight changes to your daily routine can save pounds and put you a few steps closer to that dream house or holiday you've always wanted.

For instance, did you know that turning down your thermostat by just one degree will cut your heating bill by 10 per cent? And you will be helping to save the planet too. While a bookshelf-lined study would look good in your house it's an awful lot cheaper to use that grand old institution, the public library.

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freeview is the way forward. For a small initial payment you can say goodbye to those never-ending direct debits and say hello to the occasional treat for yourself instead.

Everybody loves to buy the occasional sandwich but getting them everyday is an expensive luxury. Why not make up your own delicious selections during the week and spend the money you've saved on enjoying a leisurely weekend lunch with friends instead?

Making a shopping list will help you save money. Yes, it's true! Organising your meals beforehand and buying the right ingredients saves you not only money but time too. Spend your savings on a trip to the cinema, or a night down the pub instead.

Once you find the money piling up try investing it and enjoy that much sought-after sense of security. Either that or blow it all on something you have always, secretly, wanted.



YOUR HOME

They say the home is where the heart is, and it's true.

Houses have atmospheres. They radiate the mood and character of the family who lives there. You can tell as soon as you enter someone's house if it feels warm, open and inviting; or stiff and uncomfortable.

It doesn't matter how perfect your furniture is or how clean you keep your carpet. Furnishings and material possessions can never make up for an inviting home.

So, here are five ways that you can turn your house into that warm and loving home you desire.

1. Maintain an open door policy: Make your house inviting to family and friends by letting them know they are welcome. Encourage them to stop by to say hello or to visit you for a few minutes. Let them know you value them. A closed home is a lonely home.
2. Fill your home with aromas: Scented candles are a great way to create a calm atmosphere and a warmth, especially in the colder months. During the day however, try flowers - they brighten the house and leave a fresh, lively smell.
3. Hold a consistent family dinner hour: Make sure your family sits together at the table for dinner each night (or at least regularly) so that you can share together, laugh and bond. This will give the children an opportunity to share - which, in the age of electronics and social networking sites, is often underrated.
4. Keep your home tidy but let it be lived in: It's a great thing to be organised and to take pride in your home. In fact, your family will benefit from these traits. But it's just as important to not let that organisation run your life. If a home is so immaculate that everyone is afraid to relax, what good does that do anyone? It is important to try and maintain that balance.
5. Slow down: Fast-paced lives are the biggest thieves of family time these days. Friends are important but you need to make your family your priority not your social activities. Make time to create memories together in your home.



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WHAT PEOPLE WANT



YOUR FAMILY

Never underestimate the importance of family.

It defines who we are and enables us to feel a sense of belonging. It's a source of comfort, support, warmth, security and protection and helps us to make sense of the world around us.

Within the family unit, each member has their own individual aspirations in addition to being part of the collective. Each member should be made to feel unique and special and encouraged to follow their goals and dreams.

But let's be honest, it's not like The Waltons. It's understandable that families quarrel and sometimes experience conflict. The important thing is that each member should feel that they can express their opinions openly and that their voice is as important as any other family member's.

But when it comes to it, the lynchpin of the whole set-up is mum and dad - the cement that keeps it all together. You are also the grown-ups in this situation so try and leave the kicking, screaming and tantrums to the toddlers. Stay cool, stay calm and connect with your other half.

And remember, laughter is the best medicine. Spend more quality time with your kids having fun. The family that plays together, stays together.

"Each member should be made to feel unique"

their parents there not only as a piggy bank and a source of food, but also as a friend who they can turn to. Some families will thrive more than others.

Some families fail in their objectives. Some families get on and are very close, some families lose touch, but regardless of the nature of your relationship with your family members, it's hard not to appreciate the important part that have played in shaping our lives.

For those of us fortunate to have been part of a loving, caring and supportive family unit, it provides us with a solid example when it comes to bringing up our own family.

However trying kids may be at times, you know you wouldn't be without them. Your kids may be a responsibility but they are also a blessing. Treasure them, they are only young for a such a short time. Be sure to tell them you love them and to let them know they have your support.

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YOUR HEALTH

New Year, new you?

As many as seven million of us will have made a New Year's resolution which involves improving our health.

Some of the most common will have been quitting smoking, getting fit, drinking less and eating more fruit and veg. But now we're approaching the end of January, how many of us are struggling to keep them?

Quite often it's not the good intentions we lack, rather the stamina and determination to keep the resolution going for long enough to actually make a difference.

The NHS recommends 'top tips' to improve your health and when they are made part of your routine, they are incredibly easy to stick to.

1. Check your weight. Nearly one in three women and four out of 10 men in England are overweight. Obesity causes 9,000 premature deaths every year and, on average, reduces life expectancy by nine years. If you're trying to lose weight, regularly get on the scales - you will be able to see how you're doing and it will spur you on.

2. Drink less (alcohol that is). Most people are unaware that regularly drinking more alcohol than is advised by the NHS can lead to a wide range of long-term health problems, including cancers, strokes and heart attacks. For example, men who regularly drink more than three to four units a day are three times more likely to have a stroke.

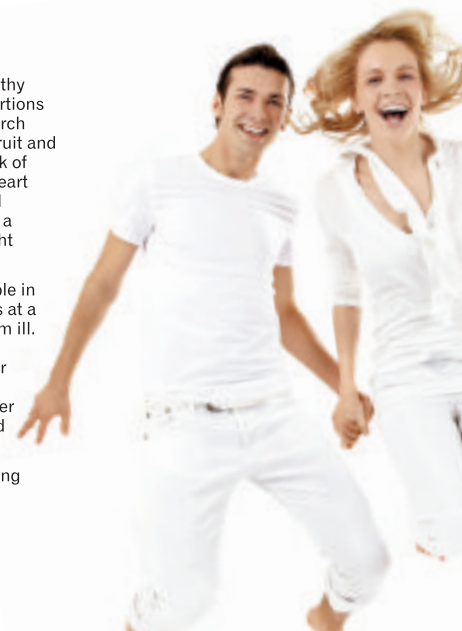
3. Eat less salt and fat. Excessive salt and fat in our diets is a major cause of chronic illnesses, such as heart disease, stroke and diabetes. Too much salt in your food can cause high blood pressure and make you three times more likely to develop heart disease or have a stroke.

4. Exercise regularly. There's more to it than losing weight - even if you're slim, you'll still get health benefits from exercising. A little regular activity can lower the risk of major chronic diseases, such as coronary heart disease, stroke and type two diabetes, by up to 50 per cent.

5. Eat more fruit and veg. For a healthy and balanced diet, try to eat five portions of fruit and vegetables a day. Research shows that eating at least 400g of fruit and vegetables a day can lower your risk of serious health problems, such as heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and obesity. Whether you're cooking for a family, eating on the run or on a tight budget, it can be done.

6. Chill out! In 2008/09 415,000 people in the UK reported work-related stress at a level they believed was making them ill. Psychological problems, including stress, are the underlying reason for one in five visits to a GP. If left unchecked, stress can lead to further health problems such as high blood pressure, anxiety and depression.

7. Get more sleep. If you're not getting enough sleep, it can affect relationships, your performance at work and it can delay recovery from illness.



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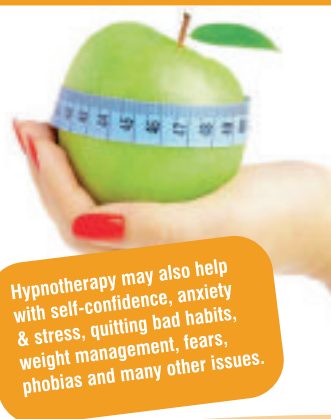
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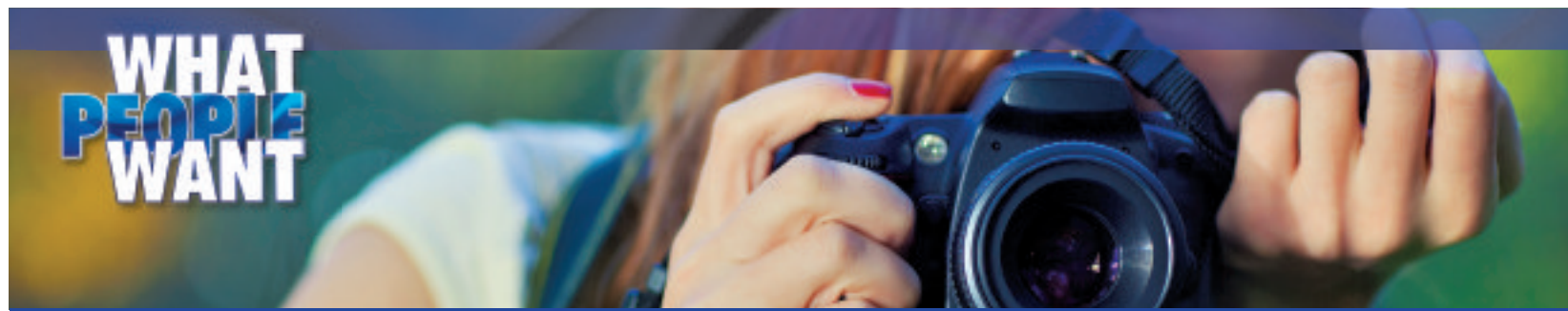


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YOUR HOBBIES

If you want to inject some excitement into your life, taking up a new hobby is a great way to get inspired.

Hobbies are excellent ways to make you feel fulfilled and they can also be a brilliant way of making friends and coming into contact with people who have similar interests.

If an obvious hobby doesn't spring to mind, sit down and think about what interests you and how you could get more involved. For example, love watching Wimbledon on TV?

Join a local tennis league. Love reading? Join a book club. Love music? Buy some decks and learn how to mix. If you've ever wanted to try rock-climbing, mountain biking, skiing or painting, it's never too late.

There are now more opportunities than ever before to broaden your knowledge, learn a new skill and just have a plain good time doing something for yourself. It could even help you get a better job.

It could be knitting or plastering, playing chess or learning new IT skills. It could be making that effort to learn a

language so that next time you go on holiday to France or Spain you can do more than just grunt, shout loudly in English or wave your arms about when you want to know the way to the station.

It could be the decision to take up badminton, ball-room dancing or playing the banjo.

Learning a new skill brings with it a self-confidence and self-reliance that comes with mastering a challenge.

Whatever you decide to do - once you've made up your mind just go for it. You will feel such a sense of achievement and you can give yourself a well-deserved pat on the back.



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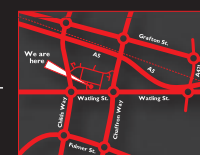
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YOUR SOCIAL LIFE

Life is like a coin. You can spend it any way you wish, but you only spend it once.

So when you consider you spend more time at work than anywhere else, it's important to make the most of the your free time.

It's safe to say that one of the most important aspects of our lives is our relationships with other people, be it family or friends.

Unfortunately, meeting people and having an active social life is something which many people struggle with, but it can be completely within your control.

One of the main reasons people struggle to have the social life that they desire is because the fear of rejection is constantly on their mind.

But here's the thing, everyone is insecure. Yes, some are more insecure than others but everyone has their faults. Don't waste a second of your time thinking you're not good enough.

When you focus your attention on what you lack, you can't see what you currently have. Realise that no-one is perfect. No-one has everything figured out. Remember not everyone is going to like you, and accept it. Embrace your differences and rise above the fear of rejection.

Focus on quality not quantity. Would you rather have a large circle of acquaintances or a small group of close friends? The latter is surely the better option. Many people believe having a ton of friends will lead to an amazing social life, which isn't always true. While it's certainly possible to have a large group of friends who you share a wonderful connection with, true intimacy generally occurs in small numbers.

And remember, the key to long lasting friendships is care and trust. It's important to make a conscious effort to be as understanding and compassionate as

possible. Genuinely care about the connection you're creating.

When someone needs a friend, be there to listen. When someone needs advice, be there to give it to them. When you truly care about someone you'll often find that person will soon begin to care about you.

And while you need to keep your own interests in mind, you must appreciate that not everyone will have the same opinions as yourself. This applies to many different situations - to political and religious views, to how you enjoy spending your spare time.

And it is these differences in people which makes relationships interesting and a form of learning curve.

Try to empathise with those around you and celebrate your differences, rather than shying away from anything different to what you know.

You can teach others and they can teach you. Often one of the greatest skills you can learn from relationships is the ability to see things from different viewpoints.



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WHAT PEOPLE WANT



QUALITY TIME

The central text of Judaism, the Talmud, teaches: 'who forces time is pushed back by time; who yields to time finds time on his side.'

It may not be possible to conjure up more time but there are plenty of ways that you can make the most of what you have.

When you fill in a form and see the 'hobbies' section do you blithely write 'Morris dancing, running, reading' and so on before realising that you haven't actually had time to enjoy any of these activities for the last three years? If so you are one of many.

Try to set aside a definite time when you can do your thing - whatever it

is. If you know that: '6pm on Tuesday = swimming', you are far more likely to go.

Turn off your work mobile or blackberry when you have finished for the day. Things are rarely so urgent that they won't wait until the morning and your evenings are precious.

Don't be pressurised into working through your lunch hour; by taking a few minutes to relax and get out of the office you will feel far more refreshed.

It will mean you function better during the rest of the working day and you will be more alert and relaxed in the evening - everyone's a winner! Watching television is a great way to relax but channel

hopping isn't.

Pick a programme or two that you want to see, watch them and then step away from the box and do something else. Once you start flicking, as if by magic, the time vanishes!

Remember that it is really important to make time for yourself.

There are so many things to do in life and it would be such a shame to miss out on them because you've got your nose permanently stuck in the order forms or the emails or some mindless TV programme.

Less work, more play, is the order of the day!





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THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO YOUR NEXT HOME IN AND AROUND MILTON KEYNES

MKNEWS Homesnow[®]



Loughton

SITUATED within a stone's throw of Loughton Equestrian Centre and within walking distance of Milton Keynes Central rail station, this very well presented, executive, detached home occupies a generous plot.

It offers a master and guest bedroom, both with en-suite facilities, two further bedrooms, family bathroom, three reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room and cloakroom.

It also enjoys a heated swimming

pool, changing/shower facilities, air conditioned office space within an existing double garage (which can easily be returned to its original use) and current planning consent to extend the garage to create a self contained annex.

Interest is anticipated to be very strong so an early viewing is advised. Call Christopher Rose Estate Agents on 01908 904222, or email info@christopherrose.co.uk for a full brochure.

Guide price £600,000, freehold.

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MILTON KEYNES 01908 240981

mkexec@taylorscountrywide.co.uk

www.taylorsestateagents.co.uk/london

TAYLORS

Executive Homes

Taylors Executive Homes, Central Milton Keynes **Call us on 01908 240981**

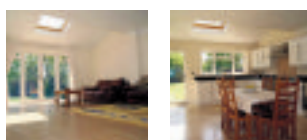


Two Mile Ash

- Three/Four Double Bedrooms
- Utility, Cloakroom & Study
- Four Reception rooms
- Two Ensuites
- Rear & Courtyard Garden
- Double Garage & Parking

£400,000

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details

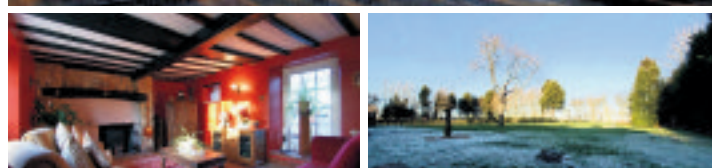


Bletchley

- Five Bedroom Detached
- Self Contained Annexe
- Cul De Sac Location
- Own Front and Rear Access
- Large Rear Garden
- Viewing Highly Recommended

£500,000

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details



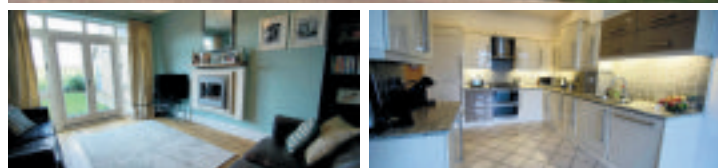
Paulerspury

An exceptional five bedroom detached cottage offered for sale in the picturesque village of Paulerspury situated on an elevated position.

- Five Bedroom
- Detached Cottage
- Village Location
- Three Reception Rooms
- En Suite to Master
- Approx Half An Acre

£600,000

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details



Broughton

A fantastic location overlooking the brook and backing onto school fields. This contemporary 5/6 bedroom detached home offers versatile accommodation over three floors.

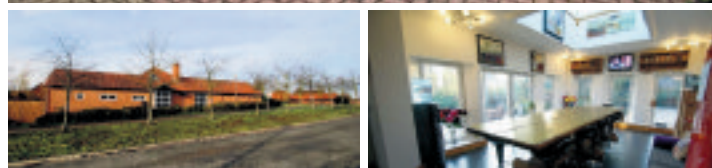
£425,000

- Five/Six Bed Home
- Overlooking Brook End
- Two Ensuites
- Great Views
- No Upper Chain
- Great Motorway Links

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details



NEW PRICE



Willen

Location! Location! Location! This property is situated in the sought after area of Willen Village. The current owners have refurbished and extended this five bedroom detached property to a high standard.

£600,000

- Sought After Location
- Refurbished and Extended
- Five Bedroom
- Three En Suites
- Executive Detached
- Triple Garage

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details



Karen Taylor



Leedon Elwood



Terry Bulley

Over 30 years experience in selling
some of Milton Keynes finest homes

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TAYLORS

Executive Homes

Taylors Executive Homes, Central Milton Keynes **Call us on 01908 240981**



Oxley Park

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Two En Suites and Family Bathroom
- Double Garage

£399,995

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details



Walton Park

- Attractive detached property
- Four double bedrooms
- Private gravel driveway
- Landscaped and private gardens
- Balcony from master bedroom
- Two en suites

Offers Over £465,000

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details



New Bradwell **£550,000**

Barn Conversion
36ft Lounge/Dining/Study Room
High Vaulted Ceilings
Exposed Beams Throughout
Five Bedrooms
Off Road Parking

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details



Stoke Hammond **£550,000**

Recently refurbished
Executive cottage
Courtyard setting
Finished to a very high specification
Four bedrooms
Double garage size outbuilding

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details



Oxley Park **£365,000**

Ideal Family Home
Spacious Accommodation
Dual Aspect Lounge
Four Double Bedrooms
Fifth Bedroom/Study
Double Garage and Gardens

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details



Oxley Park **OIEO £550,000**

Views Across North Bucks Way
Delightful Stone Built
Five Bedroom
Detached Residence
Two En Suites
Double Garage with Studio

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details



Loughton

Stylish and contemporary are just two of the words to describe this great family home, Located within Loughton one of Milton Keynes Premier areas.

£875,000

Call us on 01908 240981 for further details

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Cloakroom

- Three Reception Rooms
- Kitchen and Utility Room
- En suite and Dressing Area



Karen Taylor



Leedon Elwood



Terry Bulley

Over 30 years experience in selling
some of Milton Keynes finest homes

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TAYLORS

Central

Part of the UK's largest estate agency and lettings network

WANTED!

Two waiting buyers for a flat in Fishermead. Call 01908 678151 now if you can help!

WANTED!

Mr C urgently requires a four bedroom house in Neath Hill. Call 01908 678151 now if you can help!

WANTED!

Mr P urgently requires a three bedroom townhouse in Oldbrook. Call 01908 678151 now if you can help!

WANTED!

Mr F urgently requires a property on Pastow Avenue or Gurnards. Call 01908 678151 now if you can help!



Monkston Park £250,000

- Semi Detached
- Three Storey
- Open plan Lounge
- En suite
- Gardens
- Off Road Parking

Call: 01908 678151



Stantonbury Fields OIEO £180,000

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Cloakroom
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Front & Rear Garden

Call: 01908 678151



Peartree Bridge OIEO £155,000

- Views Over Grand Union Canal
- First Floor Maisonette
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Garage
- Cul De Sac

Call: 01908 678151



Pennyland £235,000

- Detached
- Four Bedrooms
- En-suite to Master
- Refitted Kitchen
- Double glazing
- Tandem Length Garage

Call: 01908 678151



Stantonbury Fields Guide Price £149,995

- Two Bedrooms
- End Of Terrace
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- Gas Radiator Heating
- Garage
- Gardens

Call: 01908 678151



Beanhill £152,500

- Three Bedroom Bungalow
- Much Improved
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Car Port
- Front & Rear Gardens

Call: 01908 678151



Broughton OIEO £125,000

- Two Bedroom
- Apartment
- No Upper Chain
- Price to Sell
- Master Ensuite
- Double Glazing

Call: 01908 678151



Eaglestone £145,000

- Much improved
- Terraced
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Gardens

Call: 01908 678151



Eaglestone £150,000

- Three Bedroom Property
- Lounge/Diner
- Refitted Kitchen
- Landscaped Gardens
- Allocated Parking
- Viewing Recommended

Call: 01908 678151



Springfield OIEO £260,000

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Dining Room
- Conservatory
- En-Suite
- Double Garage

Call: 01908 678151



Stantonbury £129,995

- Much improved
- Terraced
- Three Bedrooms
- Off road parking
- Front & rear Gardens
- Kitchen/Diner

Call: 01908 678151

WANTED!

Help! Mrs A needs a three bedroom apartment in The Hub. Call 01908 678151 now if you can help!

www.taylorsestateagents.co.uk
www.mortgagescountrywide.co.uk

propertywide.co.uk

Zoopla.co.uk

rightmove



Central Milton Keynes Sales & Lettings Call us on 01908 678151

TAYLORS

Central



Conniburrow £139,950

- Three Bedrooms
- Cloakroom
- Kitchen
- Lounge
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden

Call: 01908 678151



Leadenhall £113,000

- Apartment
- Two bedroom
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Bathroom
- Parking area
- No upper chain

Call: 01908 678151



Milton Keynes £69,950

- Studio Apartment
- Lounge/ Bedroom
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Communal Entrance
- No Chain

Call: 01908 678151



Redwood Gate £180,000

- First Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Ensuite to Master
- Mezzanine
- Allocated Parking

Call: 01908 678151



Great Linford £120,000

- Four bedroom home
- Vacant possession
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Gardens
- Off road parking

Call: 01908 678151



Two Mile Ash £74,995

- 50% SHARED OWNERSHIP
- Two Bedroom House
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Off Road Parking

Call: 01908 678151



Bradwell Village £175,000

- Semi Detached
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Refitted Kitchen
- Refitted Bathroom
- Large Garden
- Off Road Parking

Call: 01908 678151



Fishermead £124,950

- Three Bedroom Property
- Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Garage
- Rear Garden
- Viewing is Highly Recommended

Call: 01908 678151



Oldbrook £189,995

- Three Bed Detached
- Double Glazing
- Utility
- Front & Rear Garden
- Gas Central Heating
- Garage

Call: 01908 678151



Great Linford £175,000

- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Garage

Call: 01908 678151



Wavendon Guide Price £200,000

- Ground Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Refitted Kitchen
- Refitted Bathroom
- Refitted Ensuite to Master

Call: 01908 678151



Oldbrook OIEO £200,000

- Four Bedroom Detached
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Cloakroom
- Ensuite

Call: 01908 678151

TAYLORS

Estate Agents

Westcroft Sales & Lettings **Call us on 01908 524456**
Kingston Sales & Lettings **Call us on 01908 585552**



Oxley Park **£250,000**

- Immaculately Presented
- Four Bedrooms
- Separate Reception
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Ensuite To Master
- Garage & Gardens

Call: 01908 524456



Shenley Church End **£250,000**

- Extended
- Three Bed Detached
- Three Reception rooms
- Re-fitted Bathroom & Ensuite
- Front & rear Gardens
- Driveway & Garage

Call: 01908 524456



Kents Hill **£210,000**

- Three Bed Semi-detached
- Popular Residential area
- Separate Reception rooms
- Ensuite to Master
- Re-fitted Bathroom
- Gardens, Driveway & Garage

Call: 01908 585552



Broughton **£44,400**

- 30% shared ownership
- Two Bedroom
- First floor Apartment
- Open plan Living area
- Balcony
- Allocated parking space

Call: 01908 585552



Tattenhoe **£159,995**

- Well presented
- Two Bedroom
- Top floor Apartment
- Sought after location
- Garage
- No upper chain

Call: 01908 524456



Shenley Brook End **£324,995**

- Four/five Bed Detached
- Kitchen/Breakfast & Utility
- 26ft Lounge
- Two Ensuites
- Large Driveway & double Garage
- No upper chain

Call: 01908 524456



Broughton **£167,500**

- Exceptionally well presented
- Two double Bedroom
- Couch House
- Kitchen/Breakfast room
- Off road parking & Garage
- Double glazing

Call: 01908 585552



Walnut Tree **£235,000**

- Four Bed Detached
- Re-fitted Kitchen
- Re-fitted Bathroom
- Dining room
- Front & rear Gardens
- Driveway & Garage

Call: 01908 585552



Oxley Park **£140,000**

- Two Bedroom property
- Popular Location
- Cloakroom/Utility
- Front & rear Gardens
- Off road parking
- Gas central heating

Call: 01908 524456



Medbourne **£155,000**

- Two Bedroom
- Duplex Apartment
- Lounge/Diner
- No upper chain
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating

Call: 01908 524456



Broughton **£195,000**

- Three double Bedrooms
- Popular Residential area
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Separate Reception rooms
- Garage
- Rear Garden

Call: 01908 585552



Wavendon **£109,995**

- Recently Redecorated
- One Bedroom
- Ground floor Maisonette
- Village location
- Re-fitted Kitchen
- No upper chain

Call: 01908 585552



Emerson Valley **£200,000**

- Three Bedroom
- Detached
- Re-fitted Kitch/Diner
- Re-fitted Bathroom
- Rear & side Gardens
- Driveway & Garage

Call: 01908 524456



Oxley Park **£245,000**

- Four Bedroom Property
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Kitchen/Breakfast room
- Lounge/Diner
- Ensuite and Dressing area
- Rear Garden and Garage

Call: 01908 524456



Broughton **OIEO £400,000**

- Five Bedroom Detached
- Popular Area
- Three Reception Rooms
- Two Ensuites
- Double Garage
- Front & Rear Gardens

Call: 01908 585552

WANTED!
Three bedroom properties urgently required in Woburn Sands. Please call us on 01908 585552.

TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Westcroft Sales & Lettings **Call us on 01908 524456**
Bletchley Sales & Lettings **Call us on 01908 370861**

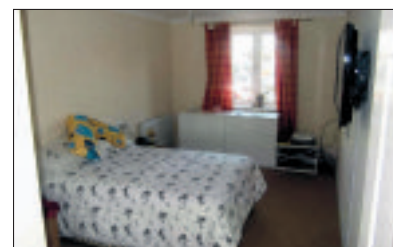


Shenley Church End

- Three Bedroom
- Link-detached
- Ensuite to Master
- Double glazing
- Rear Garden
- Driveway & Garage

£250,000

Call us on 01908 524456 for further details



Aylesbury Street

- Over 60's Apartment
- One Bedroom
- Communal Gardens & parking
- Laundry room & Lounge
- Guest Suite available
- Emergency call system

Offers over £135,000

Call us on 01908 370861 for further details

TAYLORS

Estate Agents

Wolverton Sales & Lettings
Stony Stratford Sales & Lettings

Call us on 01908 312623

Call us on 01908 563825



Bradville

We have received an offer of £90,500 on the above property.
Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

Call: 01908 312623



Hodge Lea

We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £112,000 on 6 BROOKSIDE HODGE LEA MILTON KEYNES MK12 6JW. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

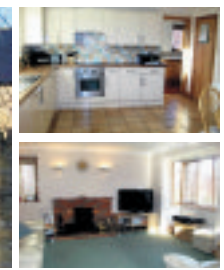
Call: 01908 312623



Castlethorpe

- Spacious Detached Family Home
- Four/five Bedrooms
- Village location
- Ensuite
- Detached double Garage
- Front, rear & side Gardens

Call: 01908 563825



375,000



Greenleys

- Three Bed Semi-detached
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen/Breakfast room
- Conservatory/lean to
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Garage and Gardens

Call: 01908 312623

OIEO 125,000



Wolverton Mill

- Four Bedroom
- Link Detached
- Ensuite to Master
- Professionally landscaped Garden
- Off road parking
- Gas central heating

Call: 01908 312623

240,000



Fullers Slade

- Three Bed Semi-detached
- No upper chain
- Open plan Living area
- Conservatory
- Gardens
- Garage

Call: 01908 563825

Guide 165,000



Deanshanger

- Recently refurbished
- Three double Bedrooms
- No upper chain
- Three Reception rooms
- Ensuite to Master
- Gardens & off road parking

Call: 01908 563825

165,000



Wolverton

- Spacious Four Bed Victorian property
- Scope to extend
- In need of some refurbishment
- Three Reception rooms
- Some period features
- Rear Garden with out building

Call: 01908 312623

OIEO 160,000



Wolverton

- Three Bedroom
- Victorian Terrace
- New gas central heating
- Re-fitted Kitchen
- Re-fitted Bathroom
- Double Glazing

Call: 01908 312623

Guide 190,000



Fullers Slade

- Three Bedroom
- Semi-detached
- Gas central heating
- Utility room
- Front & rear Gardens
- Garage

Call: 01908 563825

159,995



Hartwell

- Three Bedroom
- Semi-detached
- Re-fitted Kitchen/Diner
- Conservatory
- Driveway & Garage
- Front & rear Gardens

Call: 01908 563825

160,000

FINDER SERVICE!

We require two and three bedroom properties in Bancroft for awaiting buyers.
Call us on 01908 312623 for a free valuation.

WANTED!

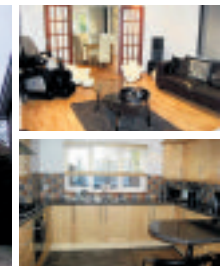
We urgently require a three bedroom Victorian property in Wolverton for first time buyer Mr B. Call us on 01908 312623 for a free valuation.



Castlethorpe

- Exceptionally presented
- Five Bed Detached
- Countryside views
- Kitchen/Breakfast room
- Three reception rooms
- Ensuite to Master

Call: 01908 563825



369,995

Newport Pagnell Sales & Lettings Call us on 01908 611966
Olney Sales & Lettings Call us on 01234 713333

TAYLORS
Estate Agents



Redhouse Park £300,000

- Four Bedroom Detached
- Kitchen/Diner
- Lounge and Study
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Double Garage
- Front & Rear Gardens

Call: 01908 611966



Wollaston Guide Price £250,000

- Extended
- Five Bed Family Home
- Three Receptions
- Separate Annex
- Front & rear Gardens
- No Upper Chain

Call: 01234 713333



Yardley Hastings £575,000

- Four Bedroom Property
- Village Location
- Character Property
- Three Brick Built Store Barns
- No Upper Chain
- Viewing is Essential

Call: 01234 713333



Newport Pagnell O.I.E.O £140,000

- Two Bedrooms End Of Terrace
- Porch
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Front & Rear Garden

Call: 01908 611966



Blakelands £165,000

- Two Bedroom
- Semi-detached
- Bungalow
- Landscaped Gardens
- Driveway
- Double glazing

Call: 01908 611966



Bozeat £325,000

- Village Location
- Stunning Vaulted Ceilings
- Converted Schoolhouse
- Wealth of Features
- Two En suites
- Viewing is a Must

Call: 01234 713333



Lavendon O.I.E.O £285,000

- Three Bedroom Detached bungalow
- Non estate location
- Conservatory
- Loft area
- Gardens to rear and side
- Off road parking

Call: 01234 713333



Great Linford Guide Price £140,000

- Three Bedroom Property
- Sought After Location
- Kitchen/Diner
- Cloakroom
- Landscaped Gardens
- Gas Central Heating

Call: 01908 611966



Olney O.I.E.O £330,000

- Detached Four Bed
- Corner Plot
- Newly Tiled Flooring
- Granite Work Surfaces
- Ensuite to Master
- Driveway & Garage

Call: 01234 713333



Bozeat £235,000

- Link Detached Family Home
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Ensuite to Master
- Utility & Cloakroom
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Driveway & Garage

Call: 01234 713333



Newport Pagnell Guide Price £198,000

- Three Bed Semi-detached
- Poets Estate Location
- Dining Room
- Conservatory
- Garage and Driveway
- Private Rear Garden

Call: 01908 611966



Newport Pagnell O.I.E.O £210,000

- Three Bedrooms
- End Of Terrace
- Victorian Property
- Sought After Location
- Planning Permission For A 2 Storey Extension

Call: 01908 611966



Odell £250,000

- Three Bedrooms
- 1930S Semi-Detached
- Separate Reception Rooms
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Double Glazing
- No Upper Chain

Call: 01234 713333



Harrold £450,000

- Extended & Modernised Throughout
- Four Bedroom Detached
- Downstairs W.C.
- Master Ensuite
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Double Garage

Call: 01234 713333

TAYLORS

Estate Agents

Bletchley Sales & Lettings Call us on 01908 370861



Bletchley **120,000**

- Two double Bedrooms
- Outskirts of Bletchley
- Dining room
- Study
- Gardens & Car Port
- No upper chain

Call: 01908 370861



Bletchley

We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £110,000. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

Call: 01908 370861



Bletchley

We would advise that an offer has been made for the above property of £95,000. Any person wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents in writing within 7 days of this advertisement.

Call: 01908 370861



Rivers Estate **Guide 170,000**

- Three Bedroom
- Semi-detached
- Re-fitted Kitchen/Diner
- Conservatory
- Garage
- Driveway & Gardens

Call: 01908 370861



Bletchley **OIEO 162,000**

- Extended
- Three Bed Semi-detached
- Kitchen/Breakfast room
- Lounge/Diner
- Double glazing
- Gardens, Driveway & Garage

Call: 01908 370861



Bletchley **Guide 230,000**

- Recently Re-furnished
- Extended Three Bed Terraced
- Re-fitted Downstairs Cloakroom
- Study/Play room
- Gardens & Parking
- No Upper Chain

Call: 01908 370861



Counties Estate **149,995**

- Three Bed Semi-detached
- Gas central heating
- Dining room
- Conservatory
- Enclosed rear Garden
- Off road parking

Call: 01908 370861



Bletchley **OIEO 250,000**

- Four Bed Detached
- Separate Reception rooms
- Double glazing
- Detached Garage
- Off road parking & Gardens
- Close to Bletchley Station

Call: 01908 370861



Bletchley **153,000**

- Recently re-decorated
- Three Bed Semi-detached
- Re-fitted Kitchen/Diner
- Enclosed rear Garden
- Double glazing
- Private parking for two cars

Call: 01908 370861



Rivers Estate **180,000**

- Extended
- Three/Four Bedrooms
- River's Estate
- 24ft Kitchen/Diner
- Ensuite
- Gardens & Driveway

Call: 01908 370861



Tattenhoe **300,000**

- Four Bed Detached
- Three Receptions
- Re-fitted Kitchen
- Utility & Cloakroom
- Ensuite to Master
- Garage & Gardens

Call: 01908 370861



Trees Estate **Offers Over 180,000**

- Three Bedroom
- Semi-detached
- Kitchen/Diner
- Conservatory
- Garage & Driveway
- Front & rear Gardens

Call: 01908 370861



Saints Estate **155,000**

- Extended
- Two Bed Semi-detached
- Conservatory
- Family room
- Rear Garden
- Off road parking for five cars

Call: 01908 370861

A fantastic start to the New Year for Taylors Bletchley! Call for a free market valuation TODAY! 01908 370861.



Poets **Guide 280,000**

- Four/Five Bed Detached
- Large Extension & Annex
- Separate Reception rooms
- Ensuite to Master
- Rear Garden
- Driveway & Garage

Call: 01908 370861

TAYLORS

New Homes

New Homes, CMK Sales & Lettings Call us on 01908 677227



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- Popular 'New Aspect' development
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- Sleek and contemporary bathrooms
- Large Dining/Living area
- Ideal for first time buyers
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- 3 Bedroom cottage style home
- Semi detached new home
- South facing garden
- Double parking to the front
- Set in popular Olney
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- 4 bedroom new home
- Semi detached house
- Contemporary kitchen/diner
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JUST RELEASED 179,950

- 2 bedroom, semi detached new home
- Modern with high specification
- large living/dining room
- Allocated parking
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CANALSIDE APARTMENT 164,995

- 2 Double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
- Spacious and modern new build
- Carpets, Fridge/Freezer and washing machine
- Allocated parking space
- Short walk to Willen Lake
- Great road access to M1 and link roads

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EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY 1,000,000

- One of the most desirable new home available
- Entered via your own remote electric gates
- Imposing farmhouse style elevation
- Versatile and flexible accommodation
- Designed with modern day living in mind
- Four reception rooms

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FRINGE OF COUNTRYSIDE 472,000

- 6 double bedroom home
- 3 En-suites
- 30ft luxury kitchen/family room
- Generous plot overlooking paddocks
- Exclusive high specification
- Situated on Western boundary of Milton Keynes

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BROUGHTON CATCHMENT 239,995

- Set on an angle a new semi detached home
- Four spacious bedrooms
- Boasting patio doors onto the garden
- Part Exchange available
- Allocated parking space
- Ideally located on the eastern edge of Milton Keynes

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EASY ACCESS TO M1 159,950

- Open plan quality fitted kitchen
- 2 double bedrooms
- Located on the east edge of Milton Keynes
- Excellent school catchment area
- Near Kingston centre
- Allocated parking space

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RARE OPPORTUNITY 215,000

- 3 bedroom, detached new home
- Highest specification
- Wardrobes in two bedrooms
- Patio doors onto the garden
- Brick car store with parking
- Situated in popular Newport Pagnell

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4 BED DETACHED HOME 275,000

- 4/5 Bedroom semi new home with under croft parking
- Open plan kitchen/diner and lounge with Juliet balcony
- Versatile 3 floor layout
- Ground floor could be adapted to a granny flat
- Hassle free part exchange is available
- Ideally located within a short walk of Willen Lake

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FRINGE OF COUNTRYSIDE 472,000

- 4 bedroom detached new home
- Family sized rooms
- Spacious kitchen leading on to the garden
- Garden backs on to farmland
- Double garage and private driveway
- Location near Salcey forest

Call: 01908 677227



4 BED DETACHED HOME 275,000

- 4 bedroom detached new home
- Open plan kitchen/diner layout
- Separate lounge with bay window to front
- Top of the house is devoted to the master suite
- Spacious en-suite
- Double parking driveway leads to garage

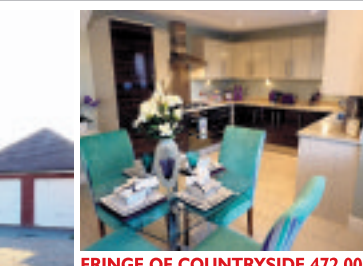
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FRINGE OF COUNTRYSIDE 472,000

- 4 bedroom detached new home
- Family sized rooms
- Spacious kitchen leading on to the garden
- Garden backs on to farmland
- Double garage and private driveway
- Location near Salcey forest

Call: 01908 677227



FRINGE OF COUNTRYSIDE 472,000

- 4 bedroom detached new home
- Family sized rooms
- Spacious kitchen leading on to the garden
- Garden backs on to farmland
- Double garage and private driveway
- Location near Salcey forest

Call: 01908 677227



FRINGE OF COUNTRYSIDE 472,000

- 4 bedroom detached new home
- Open plan kitchen/diner layout
- Separate lounge with bay window to front
- Top of the house is devoted to the master suite
- Spacious en-suite
- Double parking driveway leads to garage

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Kents Hill £47,250



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30% Shared Ownership
£16,000 premium
Two Bedroom Property
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Conservatory
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Bletchley £249,995



NEW

Detached bungalow
Two bedrooms
Open lounge/diner
En suite
Conservatory
Gardens garage

Grange Farm £299,995



NEW

Detached property
Four bedrooms
Three reception rooms
Kitchen and utility
En suite to master
Gardens and garage

Bletchley £127,000



Terraced Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge/diner
Double Glazing
Gas Central Heating
Gardens & Garage

Bradville £125,000



SOLD ON FIRST VIEWING

Three bedrooms
Two reception rooms
Snug/bedroom three
Downstairs cloakroom
Front and rear gardens

Bletchley OIEO £285,000



SOLD STC SIMILAR REQUIRED

Detached
Four double bedrooms
Double glazing
Garden
Off road parking
Garage

Shenley Church End £70,000



SOLD STC SIMILAR REQUIRED

Shared ownership
No premium
One/two bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Courtyard garden
Off road parking

Bradwell £175,000



SOLD STC SIMILAR REQUIRED

Three Bedroom Semi
Gas Central Heating
Off Road Parking
Single Garage
Front & Rear Gardens
Popular Location

Emerson Valley OIEO £150,000



NEW

Two Bedrooms
Semi Detached
Lounge
Kitchen/Diner
Conservatory
Front & Rear Gardens

Great Holm £205,000



NEW

Three Bedrooms
Gas to Radiator Heating
Double Glazing
Garden
Garage
Off Road Parking

Oldbrook OIEO £140,000



NEW

One Bedroom Link Detached Bungalow
Lounge
Refitted Kitchen
Conservatory
Shower Room
Front & Rear Garden
Single garage and Off Road Parking

Shenley Brook End OIEO £235,000



NEW

Detached family home
Three bedrooms
En suite to master
Separate reception rooms
Kitchen and utility
Garage and gardens

Bradville £85,000



No Upper Chain
Two Bedrooms
Mid-terrace
Double glazing
Gas central heating
Car port

Wavendon Gate OIEO £190,000



NEW PRICE

Three Bedroom Semi Detached Property
Set On A Corner Plot
Cloakroom
South Westerly Facing Garden
Driveway & Garage Providing Off Road Parking
No Chain

Bolbeck Park £279,995



NEW PRICE

Four Bedroom
Detached
En-suite to Master
Walk in Wardrobe
Double Glazing
Off Road Parking

West Bletchley OIEO £85,000



NEW PRICE

Top floor flat
Three bedrooms
Kitchen/diner
Lounge
Re-fitted bathroom
No chain

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Olney £189,995



Three Bedrooms Semi Detached
Lounge
Kitchen
Front and Rear Gardens
Off Road Parking
Call 01234 711481

FINDER SERVICE

We currently have Mrs S looking for a four bedroom property in Olney. If you are looking to sell please call Wilson Peacock today on 01234 711481

Blakelands Guide Price £380,000



NO CHAIN
Four Bedroom Semi Detached
Dining/Family Room
Kitchen/Breakfast & Utility
Ensuite to Master
Call 01908 611388

Newport Pagnell O.I.E.O £200,000



NO CHAIN
Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
Re-fitted Kitchen & Bathroom
Driveway & Garage
Front & rear Gardens
Call 01908 611388

Gayhurst

Guide Price £695,000



Rarely Available
Four Double Bedroom
Detached Residence



Long Sweeping Driveway
Large Private Garden
Call 01234 711481

Newport Pagnell O.I.E.O £340,000



NO CHAIN
Four Bedroom Detached Property
Conservatory
En Suite To Master
Double Garage
Call 01908 611388

Sherington

£275,000



Three Bedrooms Detached
Lounge
Dining Area
Kitchen
Utility Area
Rear Garden
Call 01908 611388

Bozeat

£250,000



Four Bedrooms Detached Property
Three Reception Rooms
Kitchen
Conservatory
Workshop/Storage
Call 01234 711481

FINDER SERVICE

We currently have Mr Mrs G who are sold subject to contract who are looking to buy 2 bedroom property in Olney. Can you help? Please call 01234 711481

Haversham Guide Price £235,000



NO CHAIN
Four Bedroom Semi Detached
Dining Room, Lounge
Kitchen
Front & Rear Garden
Call 01908 61388

Silver Street

£185,000



NO CHAIN
Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
Close To Town Centre
Refitted Kitchen
Off Road Parking
Call 01908 611388

Lavendon O.I.E.O £215,000



Three Bedroom Detached Property
Lounge
Kitchen
Dining / Family Room
Family Bathroom
Single Garage
Call 01234 711481

Lavendon £179,995



Well Presented Two Double Bedrooms
Brick Built Cottage
Popular Village Location
Separate Receptions
Countryside Views
Call 01234 711481

Newport Pagnell £175,500



NO CHAIN
Three Bedroom End Of Terrace
Double Glazing
Rear Garden
Driveway & Garage
Call 01908 611388

Newport Pagnell Guide Price £125,000



NO CHAIN
Two Bedrooms Ground Floor Apartment
Kitchen
Lounge/Diner
Allocated Parking
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E olney@wilsonpeacock.co.uk
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Campbell Park £129,995

A 2 bedroom third floor apartment in a purpose built block within a short walk of CMK shopping and theatre district making this a great first home or investment opportunity. The property has electric heating, double glazing and refitted kitchen. NO UPPER CHAIN.



Bradville

A delightful 2 bedroom semi detached home benefitting from double glazing, refitted kitchen, gas central heating, conservatory, garage and south facing private rear garden. Accommodation comprises, entrance porch, lounge, kitchen, conservatory, two bedrooms and family bathroom.

This is a lovely first time home and viewing is strongly advised. telephone Kathryn 01908 904222.



**Barleyhurst
£297,500**

A stunning, well apportioned detached bungalow in a quiet traffic free location benefiting from gas fired central heating to radiators, Double glazed windows and doors, generous well tended gardens, parking and garage whilst comprising, entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge with opening to dining area, family room, fitted kitchen, master bedroom with en suite shower room, two further bedrooms and bathroom.



Eaton Mill £134,500

A deceptively spacious mid terrace property which benefits from a double storey extension to the rear to create Entrance Porch, Lounge, Dining Area, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, nice size rear garden, garage and parking. NO UPPER CHAIN



Bletchley £199,950

A mature semi detached home in a convenient location just 100 yards or so from Bletchley Town Centre, the property is in need of a little updating but enjoys 2/3 reception rooms, kitchen, rear lobby/ utility, cloakroom, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, off road parking and gardens



**Tattenhoe
£289,950**

A well presented detached home occupying a corner plot position on this much soughtafter development comprising; Entrance hall, lounge, dining room, conservatory, kitchen/ breakfast room, cloakroom, master bedroom with en suite shower room, 3 further bedrooms, family bathroom. In addition the property enjoys gas fired central heating to radiators, double glazing, gardens to front side and rear, garage and off road parking. Viewing essential.



**Loughton
£600,000**

Situated within a 'stones throw' of Loughton Equestrian Centre and within walking distance of Milton Keynes Central rail station a very well presented, executive, detached home occupying a generous plot. Offering a master & guest bedroom both with ensuite facilities, two further bedrooms, family bathroom, three reception rooms, kitchen/ breakfast room, utility room, cloakroom. The property also enjoys a heated swimming pool, changing/shower facilities, air conditioned office space within existing double garage, current planning consent to extend the garage to create a self contained annex.



Vizion £210,000

A very well presented two bedroom, two bathroom, 4th floor apartment in the sought after Vizion development with open plan living/ dining/ kitchen area, balcony, radiator heating, double glazing & secure parking.



Stratford Park
Wolverton
MK12 5FD

2 & 3 bedroom homes
from £199,500 to £246,995



Broughton Mews
Off Newport Road
MK10 9LR

2, 3 & 4 bedroom homes
from £162,995 to £280,449



Gyosei, Japonica Lane, Willen MK15 9JY
2, 4 & 5 bedroom homes from £164,995 to £450,249

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- ✓ A 20% loan, interest free† for the first 5 years
- ✓ Limited availability

The Buttermere - 2 bedroom apartment at Gyosei

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Deposit	(4%) £6,599
We arrange equity loan	(20%) £32,999
Total purchase price	£164,995

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A stylish collection of 1 & 2 bedroom apartments.
Prices from **£93,596***

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FirstBuy means you own 100% of the property but only pay 80% of the price plus you only need a 4% deposit!*



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Time is running out and only a few weeks remain to buy to
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Bellway

*Prices correct at time of going to press. Specification on site may differ. Picture for illustration purposes only. Price shown includes Firstbuy discount. Offer available on selected plots only and cannot be used in conjunction with any other Bellway Homes offer. For the first five years the equity loan is interest free. After five years, an annual fee of 1.75% of the outstanding equity loan is charged. This is increased annually by RPI plus 1%. Subject to status, terms & conditions apply. †Currently first time buyers do not pay Stamp Duty on properties up to £250,000. This changes on the 25th March 2012. Terms and conditions apply.

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Archers Fields, Silsoe

- A beautiful range of 2, 3 & 4 bedroom homes are available from only £189,950
- Or, with HomeBuy Direct you could pay from only **£132,965** now*
- Move soon though, as this Government-backed scheme ends in March 2012!

Showhomes open Thursday to Monday, 10am – 5pm.

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YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP THE REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR ANY OTHER DEBT SECURED ON IT

*HomeBuy Direct is plot specific and subject to status. Terms, conditions and eligibility criteria apply. Credit is available subject to status and is provided by two separate secured loans from each of the HCA and Miller Homes Limited of Miller House, 2 Lochside View, Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh EH12 9DH. Credit is subject to security over your new home. Subject to terms and conditions. This Government backed scheme is for legal completion by 31st March 2012. For full details contact the development direct or visit our website at www.millerhomes.co.uk/homebuy. Prices and availability correct at time of going to print. Photography represents a typical Miller Homes interior. CGI represents an artist's impression.

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so you can buy ours!**

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The key to an easier move

- A guaranteed offer for your old home based on an independent valuation
- Stay in your existing home until your new house is ready
- No estate agent fees
- Stress free move

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Bellway

Incentives available for homemovers

Getting on the property ladder may not be as difficult as it seems, according to leading local agents Taylors and Wilson Peacock.

At the end of 2011, the Government announced a number of measures to assist homemovers to move up and for first-time buyers to get on the property ladder.

These include:

- A Mortgage Indemnity Scheme designed to offer 95% loan to value mortgages for first time buyers looking to purchase new build properties.
- An additional £400m earmarked for the FirstBuy Scheme, which will help 10,500 first-time buyers get on to the property ladder with a loan of up to 20% of the property value available.

To support the New Year buzz Taylors and Wilson Peacock offices across the UK have a number of specialist advisors on hand to provide advice for all potential home movers including first-time buyers, homeowners looking to trade up or access new mortgage products and landlords who are looking to grow their property portfolios.

Peter Wallace, MD, said:

"2012 looks set to be a promising year for the property market across the Country. Within the first few weeks, we're already seeing an increase in new buyer enquiries and homeowners looking to get their property valued."

Buyer demand is still strong across the region and although deposit affordability continues to be a hurdle for many potential buyers to overcome, properties that are competitively priced to sell are being snapped up, with demand especially high for properties ranging from one bedroom apartments to large family homes."

Countrywide operates the largest mortgage broker service in the UK and its 650 mortgage consultants, including consultants at Taylors and Wilson Peacock, have found that in recent weeks, at least nine of Countrywide's Top 10 Mortgage Products have been fixed-rate products.

Peter Wallace adds: "Despite marginal rate rises, mortgages are still 0.81 percent cheaper than in 2009, with the average 75% LTV mortgages now available at a rate of 3.24%. This provides a good time for borrowers to review their options and consider remortgaging to take advantage of the great deals currently on offer. We are working with some of the UK's largest lenders to give buyers a helping hand by enabling them to access competitive purchase and remortgage products, ideal for customers making their first steps onto the property ladder and those simply looking to remortgage."

To find out more about Countrywide's exclusive mortgage products and services, contact your local Taylors or Wilson Peacock office by visiting www.propertywide.co.uk.



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Taylor Wimpey



*Prices correct at time of going to press. Images are indicative of typical Taylor Wimpey homes. January 2012.

Oakbrook

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At Oakbrook, there truly is something for everyone!

Sales office opening on the 28th January!

Oakbrook at Newton Leys

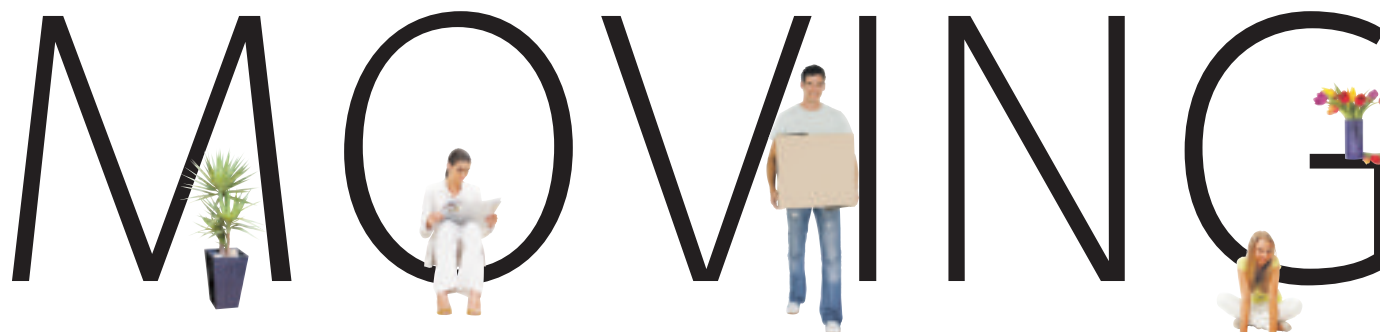
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3 & 4 bedroom houses from**£224,995**

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- A guaranteed offer for your old home based on an independent valuation
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- No estate agent fees • Stress free move

FirstBuy

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Homebuy
UK Government

**DUTY
FREE**

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AVOID UP TO £2,500 IN STAMP DUTY

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**6 High Street
Woburn Sands**

Property to let

WOBURN SANDS £750pcm



A two bedroom mid terrace property with a 100' approx rear garden and within walking distance of woodland and shops. Unfurnished. Available 12/3.

WOBURN SANDS £950pcm



A four double bedroom flat located in Woburn Sands High Street with shops, restaurants and facilities. Part furnished. Available Now.

ASPLEY GUISE £1,100pcm



A three double bedroom, plus box room, semi detached property with open plan lounge/dining room and conservatory. Unfurnished. Available Now.

WOBURN SANDS £695pcm



A newly refurbished two bedroom mid terrace cottage with single bedroom/study/box room. Unfurnished. Available Now.

ASPLEY GUISE £2,495pcm



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WOBURN SANDS £595pcm



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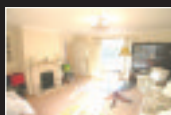
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PROPERTY SALES & LETTINGS

Bletchley Park -FOR SALE

£470,995

A spacious four bedroom detached property within walking distance of the station.
■ Cloaks/WC ■ Kitchen/breakfast room ■ Utility
■ Dining room ■ Sitting room ■ Living room
■ Master bedroom with ensuite
■ Front and rear gardens ■ Garage



Emerson Valley - FOR SALE

£189,995



This executive three bedroom house has been extended with a large conservatory, garage and gardens.
■ Sitting/dining room ■ Refitted kitchen ■ Conservatory
■ Three bedrooms ■ Refitted bathroom ■ Garage ■ Gardens

Newport Pagnell £170,000

FOR SALE



An extended three bedroom character property.
■ Hall ■ Lounge/diner
■ Refitted kitchen ■ Bathroom ■ Garden

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Shenley Brook End

£1195 PCMPF



A four bedroom executive family house with good local schooling.
■ Hall ■ Cloaks/WC ■ Kitchen/Dining room ■ Utility room
■ Sitting room ■ Bathroom ■ Ensuite ■ Garage ■ Rear garden

Bletchley

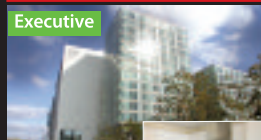
£965 PCMPF



A four double bedroom townhouse.
■ WC/Cloakroom ■ Lounge ■ Bathroom
■ Kitchen/diner ■ Two ensembles
■ Parking ■ Garden ■ Ideal for commuters

Centre MK from

£650 PCMPF



Luxury one and two bedroom apartments.
■ Hall ■ Lounge/diner
■ Kitchen ■ Double bedroom ■ Bathroom
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single women

SARAH 36, young looking, single mum, own home, seeks male to look after for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383959

STEFF 32, slim, hazel eyes, long hair, curvy size 10, likes cosying up, cuddles, tickles, sick of being lonely and bored, not looking for complications just love. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 382159

MARION 38 slim, sporty, fun with good personality, loves travel, holding hands and caring for people. Seeks genuine male, no time wasters. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383159

VAL compassionate outgoing female with a big heart and no preconceptions just looking for love with similar minded male. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383155

TARA charismatic, optimistic Irish entrepreneur, sensual, attractive, intelligent, seeks genuine male to spoil, enjoy good times and let just take it from there. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383121

63YR old widow, 5ft 7ins, N/S, likes most things, seeks genuine, honest gent, 63-70 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 384259

MARIA 5ft 5ins, divorced, size 14-16, N/S, seeks English man, 40-50 for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 382029

GWEN lovely dark haired, dark blue eyed slim sensual female with GSOH, WLT, male 35-50 for fun times and romantic nights in together. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380443

DEBBIE dark haired passionate classy, discreet female looking for professional intelligent male wanting mutual companionship. Can accommodate. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380441

DEBORAH 38 missing that special someone in my life. Call me, even if you're not the one I graduate we will still have loads of fun! Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380439

DIANE successful feisty business women, confident, fun, chatty, positive, social with everything but that special someone in her life and WLT him. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 379203

JULIE attractive black female, 35, slim, GSOH, easygoing, likes music, cinema, travel, seeks attractive, black male, tall, 30-42 for serious relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 375479

CARRIE 38 blue eyes, blonde, voluptuous, curvy, looking for professional gent up to 50yrs LTR. Call me to meet up for a casual drink and chat. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380881

LISA sexy blonde 31yrs, extremely fit and outgoing, seeking male for casual friendship with benefits. Discretion assured. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380879

TRISH tall slim brunette, honest, reliable, affectionate, OHAC, no ties, outgoing, loves Indian food, seeking male 39-50yrs for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380877

LINDA 50's, brunette, brown eyes, 5ft 5ins, likes socialising, cinema, meals out, holidays, seeks male, 45-60 who are fun and young at heart for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380701

JANE passionate lady seeking unconventional young at heart male 35-50 for free spirited, open-minded fun and new experiences. Single dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 375611

ELSIE 62, widow, looking for N/S male, honest, genuine and caring for friendship/company. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 377411

ANNE early 60's, active, professional, 5ft 7ins, seeks spiritual type male. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 379231

JEAN 5ft 6ins, slim-medium build, young at heart, genuine, seeks similar gent for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383427

CAROL alone on a Saturday night with a bag of chips, what am I doing? Sick of being single and looking for a male who can handle a good woman. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383119

SHARON 5ft 7ins, slim blonde, attractive, funny, good job, nice home, sports car, well educated/travelled, newly single and looking for love. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383113

ERIN attractive petite divorcee with own home, looking for nights in/out, friendship and maybe more with mature male. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383111

LADY looking for male dance partner to keep fit, make friends and dance. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 378865

ANGELA Scottish female, dark hair, green eyes, attractive, new to the area, no ties, OHAC, seeks gentle male for good times and more. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 382227

DAWN young looking slim attractive fashionable 40's female, cultured and educated, discreet, WLT, genuine male for mutually convenient relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 382223

single men

LOOKING TO MEET or CHAT to someone, look no further. Text **MATCH262** to 65125 (T&C'S BELOW)

31YR old male, medium build, kind, honest, seek female, 22-40. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 384053

STOCKY black man, 39, charming, great company, seeks voluptuous black female, 22-40, size 12-20 for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 382499

DAN 44, white male, 5ft 9ins, athletic, well dressed, sincere, seeks similar lady, 28-44 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383817

43YR old male, 5ft 10ins, slim, dark hair, blue/grey eyes, likes wining/dining, theatre, seeks female, 38-45. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380163

GOOD looking male, 45, 6ft, blue eyes, seeks female buddy for exciting and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 384103

MIXED race male, medium build, seeks sexy female, 25-38 for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 384185

56YR old male, 5ft 10ins, medium-well built, fit, healthy, seeks sexy female up to 70 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383929

PAUL 57, 5ft 8ins, slim-medium build, short hair, GSOH, attractive, genuine, down to earth, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383233

DAVID easygoing, N/S old man, seeks Milton Keynes lady for discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 383017

BRITISH black male, 6ft 2ins, 50, loving, considerate, seeks black female 18-40 for adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 381995

TREV black male, British, 41, slim, sporty, seeks female for love, relationship and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380319

KEN 57, 5ft 4ins, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks female for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380370

NATURIST male, 42, looking to meet female for discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 381099

MARK disabled, 36, smoker, seeking female for relationship and friends. Tel No: 0906 500 3674 Box No: 380993

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If you are interested in applying for this post please telephone Jan Gosnell at the college (01234 290900) or email: jangosnell@hastingsbury.beds.sch.uk for an application form and further details. The closing date for completed applications is Monday 6 February 2012. Information about the college is available at www.hastingsbury.beds.sch.uk.

Hastingsbury is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. In accordance with the Police Act 1997 all posts in schools are subject to disclosure of criminal records.

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To support carers to gain and maintain mental wellbeing through individual and group support.
Based in Luton, 5 hours per week

Closedown for all four posts: 5pm on Monday 06 February
Application packs are available to download at www.bedsandlutonmind.org.uk
For more information email hq@bedsandlutonmind.org.uk

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The Radcliffe School

Aylesbury Street West, Wolverton, Milton Keynes MK12 5BT
Telephone: 01908 682 222 Fax: 01908 682 200
Headteacher: John O'Donnell



"The school provides a good education for its students." – Ofsted, October 2009

TEACHING ASSISTANT (LEVEL 3) - STUDENT BEHAVIOUR & WELFARE

£15,165.93 per annum (based on 37 hours per week, 39 weeks per annum)

We require a Level 3 Teaching Assistant to join our busy school from April, and to focus on student behaviour for learning and welfare. Responsibilities will include implementing agreed work programmes with individuals and small groups, in or out of the classroom as well as assisting staff in the management and preparation of resources. It is essential that the successful candidate will already have at least two years' experience of working with young people, focussed on their welfare. The welfare emphasis of this role will be on signposting services for young people, therefore the successful candidate will be required to liaise with external agencies and coordinate their relationship with the school.

We also require a Level 3 Teaching Assistant to provide sickness cover on a temporary basis.

LEVEL 1 TEACHING ASSISTANT

£9,699.47 per annum (based on 31 hours per week, 39 weeks p.a.)

We require a Level 1 Teaching Assistant to work within the school's brand new Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) as soon as possible. The ARP is an environment for young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders and a range of communication disorders and challenging behaviour. The ARP will eventually house approximately 15 students, aged between 11 and 19. Previous classroom experience would be advantageous but not essential as training will be provided.

If you are a team player with a flexible approach and a positive, can-do attitude, and would like to find out more about this position, please go to www.radcliffeschool.org.uk to download information about the post and an application form. The deadline for applications is Wednesday 8 February 2012.

We are committed to enabling all staff to receive ongoing, high quality and effective CPD and we are currently working towards achieving the CPD Mark.

The Radcliffe School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. This post requires an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure. We are an equal opportunities employer.



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- Excellent salary for right candidate
- Car driver essential

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- To train Domiciliary Home Care Staff in all aspects of home care and in a variety of settings.
- Must be conversant with CQC Standards and able to design and deliver training courses
- PTTLS or DTLLS Qualified or equivalent
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Ann Stephenson on 01234 333870 or by Email: admin@standrewscarehomes.co.uk
Closing date for receipt of completed applications is Friday 3rd February 2012
This post is subject to Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

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www.furniturefusion.co.uk

ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL
Federation of Bedford Catholic Schools
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For April 2012
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We offer an exciting opportunity for someone with experience, drive and proven leadership skills to impact on the next phase of our school improvement.
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• A commitment to raising the educational achievements of all
• A record of outstanding practice with clear evidence of impact
The main responsibilities would depend upon the level of appointment, but would include:
• Leadership of Key Stage 3
• Assessment, monitoring and evaluation
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• Oversight of the timetable construction
• Line management of subject areas
If you would like to find out more about the post then please contact the headteacher for an informal discussion. Visits to the school are warmly welcomed.
Application forms/details are downloadable from our website or by emailing the school.
We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced CRB check.
CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:
Thursday, 2 February 2012 (12.00 noon)
INTERVIEWS: **Wednesday, 8 / Thursday, 9 February 2012**

Federation of Bedford Catholic Schools
St Thomas More Catholic Teaching School
Tyne Crescent, Bedford MK41 7UL
Tel: 01234 400222
www.st-thomasmore.org.uk

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For September 2012 (or Easter 2012 depending on the applicant).

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Teacher of Science (maternity cover)

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Teacher of Music (maternity cover)

Needed for May 2012. Music is on the increase in the school, and feeds in to the lively and highly successful Performing Arts Department. This position could be on a part-time basis (3 days a week) or full time across St Thomas More and our feeder Catholic school, St Gregory's Middle School in Biddenham, Bedford dependent on the applicant.

All applicants need to be enthusiastic, have sound background knowledge of the subject, good classroom craft and be willing to move these growing Departments forward at all Key Stages. Both NQTs and experienced teachers are invited to apply. Initial teacher training and CPD are given high priority. Staff are supportive and welcoming in this oversubscribed and successful 13-18 Catholic school which is classed as OUTSTANDING by Ofsted.

To register an interest, view recruitment documentation and/or complete an application form, please go to the job opportunities page on the school website where you will find details of these vacancies or contact the school office at the above address. Closing date for applications is 6th February 2012. Interviews to be held very soon after.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced CRB check.

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Senior Placement Officer

£32,800 - £38,042

Ref: 50018407

You will manage all external fostering and residential placements and relationships with our social workers, providers and our partners Buckinghamshire County Council. A qualified and experienced social worker you will have extensive knowledge of external services, preferably with expertise in contracting, negotiation, procurement and outcomes based services.

This post is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact Danny Conway on 01908 253914.

Interview date: 20 February 2012.

Accredited Financial Investigator

£28,636 - £33,661

Ref: 50018404

37 hours per week

Accredited to carry out Proceeds of Crime Act investigations, including cash seizures, you will help develop and deliver new policies and procedures in this area. You will form part of the specialist investigations team but be the only financial investigator in the authority.

For informal enquiries please contact Karen Ford on 01908 252267.

Closing date: 19 February 2012.

Interview date: 8 March 2012.

Social Worker

Ref: 50018423

Family Assessment and Support Team

£25,472 - £33,661 pro rata + 10% enhancement as you will be part of the out of hours service on a rota basis. Essential car user allowance is also payable

30 hours per week

A fully qualified and registered social work professional, you will work creatively to ensure the safety, well-being, and development of children and young people. It's a challenging role involving assessing the needs of children, young people and their families, analysing information, and developing and implementing care plans and interventions.

This post is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact David Glover-Wright, Jane Morrison or Garry Lake on 01908 253168.

Interview date: 27 February 2012.

Residential Worker

£17,802 - £21,519 pro rata

Annualised hours

Ref: 50018378

Posts available at Furze House and Westminster Drive

We need adaptable individuals to support children and young people with learning disabilities. You'll need patience and a sense of humour as you oversee finger painting, monitor care plans, and receive pizza deliveries. Your willingness to work late shifts, weekends, and bank holidays will be matched by a desire to train.

This role is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact Furze House on 01908 521048 or Estee Fourie, Westminster Drive on 01908 644982.

Library Assistant (Westcroft)

£13,589 - £16,054 pro rata

Ref: 50018029

10.5 hours per week including Saturdays, Fixed-term until 30 September 2012

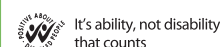
As part of a team you will assist senior staff in the provision of library services at Westcroft Library. Flexible, reliable and able to take charge of the opening and securing of the building you will have excellent communication, IT library skills, and you will have GCSE Maths and English (A-C) or equivalent.

Closing date for all roles unless stated: 12 February 2012.

To apply online visit: www.miltonkeynes.gov.uk/jobs-careers

For an application form, email: jobs@milton-keynes.gov.uk

If you have a hearing impairment and have access to Minicom please phone 01908 252727 (office hours only). Please quote appropriate reference. Salaries will normally start at the first point of the grade. We are unable to accept CVs, unless accompanied by a completed application form.



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Newnham Middle School
Achievement through opportunity

Headteacher: Maxine Burrows
Number on roll: 600

As from April 2012 we require a

Science Subject Leader

TLR 2C (£6,196)

We are looking for an **excellent, dynamic and motivated teacher** with the **vision to raise standards of achievement and to improve teaching and learning in Science.**

Closing date: 9am Tuesday 31st January
Interviews: Thursday 2nd February

Newnham Middle School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The position requires an enhanced criminal records bureau (CRB) disclosure.

Full details of the post and the Bedford Borough application form are on our website on www.newnham.beds.sch.uk. Alternatively please contact Pauline Corbyn, Headteacher's PA (pcorbyn@newnham-middle.org.uk)

Mrs Burrows is available for tours of the school and an informal chat

Pothill Avenue, Bedford MK41 9DT
Tel: (01234) 303 403 Fax: (01234) 303 404 www.newnham.beds.sch.uk

St John's Special School & College
Specialist in Communication & Interaction

Bedford Road, Kempston, Bedford. MK42 8AA
Tel: 01234 345565 Fax: 01234 327734
Email: office@st-johns-school.co.uk
Headteacher: Ron Babbage BA (Hons) PGCE MED

VACANCIES

St John's School provides special education for children and young people with severe, profound and multiple learning difficulties, aged two to nineteen.

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

As a team member your role is to support teaching staff and pupils in a wide range of activities during the school day. Previous experience or an interest in Multi-sensory impairment (MSI) would be an advantage.
The hours are 32.5 per week, term time only, plus 5 training days.
Rate of pay is £7.75 per hour.

MID-DAY SUPERVISORY ASSISTANTS

Required to support individual and small groups of pupils over the lunchtime period, 11.45-1.30pm, with feeding, supervision and care needs.

You may be based at any of our three sites, Kempston, Biddenham or Bromham Road in Bedford. Monday to Friday, term time only. Rate of pay is £6.46 per hour.

Closing dates for all of these posts:
Monday 30 January 2012 at 12 noon
Interview date for LSA posts – Wednesday 08 February 2012
Interview date for MSA posts – Thursday 09 February 2012

To obtain an application pack for any of the above posts please send an e-mail request to the school at office@st-johns-school.co.uk or for further details, please contact the school office.

St. John's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and/or vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Working towards equality

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equality choice independence

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Personal Support Assistants (Ref. PAP/399)

Salary: £14,232.67 - £15,689.23 + enhancements (see Papworth Trust Benefits).

Hours: Full time, part time and Bank staff available. Waking nights and sleep-ins will be required.

Location: Bedfordshire.

We require enthusiastic people to deliver care and support to people with learning disabilities and complex needs who are living in their own homes in Bedfordshire. If you are willing to work flexibly and are committed to supporting disabled people to make their own choices by supporting them to maximise their independence, retain their individuality and increase integration and understanding within the wider community we want to hear from you.

All Personal Support Assistants participate in a rota to provide 24 hour personal care and support.

Our Personal Support Assistants are subject to an enhanced CRB check and satisfactory employment references. We offer enhancements where applicable and full training. A full UK driving licence would be an advantage. If you want to work in a growing organisation that is helping more people to increase their independence, we look forward to receiving your application.

Closing date for applications: Friday 3rd February 2012
Interviews will take place on: 13th & 14th February 2012

To apply for this role please download an application pack from our website: www.papworth.org.uk/jobs.php

Alternatively please email recruitment@papworth.org.uk for an application pack and further information quoting the relevant reference number and location.

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BEDFORD SCHOOL

BOARDING HOUSE ASSISTANT/CLEANER

Required to join our team and provide high standards of cleanliness at one of the School Boarding Houses. Experience in a similar role preferred.

Hours are an average of 15 per week, Monday to Friday 9.00 am – 12 noon during term time plus two weeks in school holidays.

For further details and an application pack please visit our website:
www.bedfordschool.org.uk/support-staff-vacancies

Bedford Charity is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced CRB check, references and other checks.

www.bedfordschool.org.uk

Closing Date
2 February 2012

HMC BOARDING AND DAY
700 Boys;
280 Sixth Form

BEDFORD SCHOOL

HEAD OF MFL

September 2012

We are looking to appoint a suitably qualified and inspirational linguist to Head the Modern Foreign Languages department at this highly successful boys' school where over 100 boys study a language at AS, A level or the International Baccalaureate (IB) in the Sixth Form. The School offers French, German, Spanish and Mandarin at all levels.

A willingness to take an active part in the life of this large boarding and day School is essential and the ability to coach games, especially one of the School's major sports, would be an advantage.

The School has its own salary scale which is well above the national scale. Help with accommodation may be available and there is generous fee remission for children of teaching staff of the Harpur Trust Schools in Bedford.

Further details are available from
The Head Master, Bedford School
De Parys Avenue, Bedford MK40 2TU
Tel: 01234 362211
Email: rblake@bedfordschool.org.uk

A copy of the job description and an application form is available to download from the School's website (www.bedfordschool.org.uk) Applications should be returned to the Head Master no later than midday on Wednesday 25th February 2012. Please note that CVs will not be considered.

www.bedfordschool.org.uk

Bedford Charity is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced CRB check, references and other checks.

Closing Date
25th January 2012
Interview Date
31st January 2012

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This is a great opportunity to be involved in shaping new and developing services. We want team members who are innovative, problem solvers and comfortable working in a fast and responsive service. We are looking for people with a range of clinical skills but we will also be delivering a detailed training programme to ensure staff have the skills needed to deliver the services.

For more information
please contact Liz Wade on
07970149512

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Vacancy Ref 364-5787NS

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Vacancy Ref 364-5781NS

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visit our website at www.sept.nhs.uk

Closing Date: 31st January 2012



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SEPT offer a wide range of benefits to include a pension scheme, child care vouchers and development and training opportunities. We actively promote equal opportunities and positively encourage applications from suitably qualified and eligible people regardless of sex, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability. All full time posts are open to job share. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. Applicants will be subject to robust safer recruitment processes. All staff with patient contact will need an enhanced CRB check.

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CAROL attractive lady of leisure, solvent, OHAC, WLTM sincere gent willing to entertain and share all of life's naughty indulgences with me. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 380857**

IRENE looking for happy go lucky relationship with trustworthy male for romantic evenings in quiet nights out, passionate weekends away and more. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381701**

TARA 5ft big blue eyed babe with a cute smile looking for older sugar daddy who is not afraid to spend a little to live a lot! Good times always guaranteed. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381731**

ANN slim blonde female, lovely big blue eyes, great personality, outgoing, employed, OHAC, WLTM caring 40's male for adult fun and more. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 382085**

TANYA 28, beautiful black single mum, very body confident and all out of love. Lonely and looking for good company with experienced respectful man. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381727**

KERRY 31 outgoing confident with laidback attitude, looking for relaxed relationship with tactile male, any age/looks/size or status. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381697**

STEFF 32, slim, hazel eyes, long hair, curly side 10, likes cosying up, cuddles, tickles, sick of being lonely and bored, not looking for complications just love. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 382159**

TIA 38yr old attractive blonde female, likes keep fit, home life, looking for similar genuine romantic for sensual relationship and good friendship. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 382081**

TIA shy pretty female 39, seeks outgoing man to coax me out of my shell, for good times and old langsyne's. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381333**

SUE long blonde haired slim but curvy pretty female, loves to live life to the full, good wine, shopping, seeking genuine male 48-60yrs for adult friendship. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 380853**

JAYNE tall blonde, blue eyes, attractive, OHAC, no ties, enjoys nights out, romantic nights in, WLTM male up to 55yrs for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381365**

DEBBIE dark haired passionate classy, discreet female looking for professional intelligent male in similar circumstance to enjoy intimate mutually respectful relationship. Can accommodate. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 380441**

EMMIE 28yr old lonely single mum all out of love, looking for good company with male who can tame a confident beautiful sensual lady. Any looks. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381363**

SARAH 39yr old female looking for a little extra out of life, seeks discreet male in similar circumstance to enjoy intimate mutually respectful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 379557**

SAM 35, green eyed voluptuous, busty, loves football, theatre, travel, red wine, WLTM older male up to 65yrs for sensual for a sensual relationship. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 379975**

CARMEL blonde brown eyed girl, employed with OHAC, likes meals out, walking, looking for loving relationship with caring that special someone in town to earth male. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 380001**

BEE tall slim attractive 39, loves good conversation, sensitive but confident people and WLTM someone well balanced to entertain and appreciate. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 378477**

DIANE successful feisty business women, confident, fun, chatty, positive, social with everything but caring that special someone in town to earth male. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 379203**

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Community Asset Transfer (CAT) has a focus on 'the built community infrastructure' i.e. leisure and community facilities, libraries, open spaces and a variety of other sites and centres. The programme is about transferring these community assets from Milton Keynes Council (MKC) to other relevant organisations in line with the principles of localism (and the emerging requirements of the Localism Act). The Council's approach to CAT has a long-term goal of "putting more control into the hands of our local communities".

Please note the following dates for Public Consultation Meetings (including additional pilot sessions) Public Consultation Meetings will be held between January and March 2012.

Date	Venue	Time
31st Jan	Downs Barn Pavilion	6pm - 7pm
1st Feb	Frank Moran Centre	6pm - 7pm
8th Feb	Simpson Village Hall	6pm - 7pm
7th Feb	Bletchley Leisure Centre	6pm - 7pm
9th Feb	Stony Stratford Library	6.30pm - 7.30pm
13th Feb	Medbourne Pavilion	2pm - 3pm
15th Feb	Green Park Community Centre	6pm - 7pm
23rd Feb	Pavilion at Woughton On The Green	6pm - 7pm
27th Feb	Caldecotte Outdoor Ed Centre	2pm - 3pm
8th Mar	Greenleys Meeting Place	6pm - 7pm
15th Mar	Green Park Community Centre	2pm - 3pm
22nd Mar	Great Linford Memorial Hall	2pm - 3pm
27th Mar	CMK Library	6pm - 7pm



Tender Notice

Framework for the Provision of Passenger Transport Services
Tender Reference: CBC-0055-TTC



The Council provides a range of transport services including local bus services for the general public, home to school transport for school children and students, and transport for adults and children with social or welfare needs. The services currently provide transport for approximately 6,500 passengers per day, through the delivery of over 700 routes using a mix of vehicle types including cars, minibuses, coaches and buses.

A new framework of approved suppliers for the provision of passenger transport services is now being set up. The framework will operate for up to 4 years and has an anticipated start date of July 2012. The framework will be split into the following categories of service (Lots):

- Lot 1 - Short Notice and Urgent Transport
- Lot 2 - Mainstream School Transport
- Lot 3 - Special Educational Needs and Social Care Transport
- Lot 4 - Supported Public Local and Community Bus Services

Applications can be made for one or more Lots.

Applicants must hold a relevant operator's licence or permit. Applicants must also be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the particular safety and welfare needs of the passengers who will be using the services. References must be provided.

Applications are welcome from single organisations or consortia from the public, private and voluntary/community sector.

The framework will be set up using a two-stage procurement process: a pre-qualification stage followed by a tender stage. Only shortlisted suppliers will be invited to take part in the tender stage. Suppliers that meet the standards required at tender stage will be awarded a place on the framework. Further information regarding the process is given in the application documents.

To express an interest and gain access to the application documents, please register on our electronic tendering system:

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/centralbedfordshire>

Deadline for receipt of completed application documents is:
12 noon, Wednesday 22 February 2012

Contract Notice despatched to the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) on: Friday 20 January 2012.

All enquiries to procurement@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(CHURCH LANE, LOUGHTON) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to enable British Telecom to gain safe access to their equipment in order to carry out necessary cabling and jointing works within Church Lane, Loughton, Milton Keynes. The effect of this will be to temporarily prohibit vehicular access along Church Lane, Loughton from a point in line with the northern boundary of number 6, continuing to its junction with Pitcher Lane and School Lane. It is anticipated that the closure will be in effect from 8.00 am until 5.00 pm on Friday 3 February 2012.

Whilst the road is temporarily closed the alternative route for north-westbound traffic will be along Pitcher Lane to its junction with Leys Road, turn right onto Leys Road and continue in a westerly direction to its junction with Bradwell Road, then turn right onto Bradwell Road and continue northerly to its junction with Church Lane, and vice versa for south-eastbound traffic. The alternative route will be signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual and advance information signs will be placed at either end of the length of road to be closed a few days before the works are due to take place.

There shall be no exemptions from the provisions of the Order.

Access to and from residential properties along Church Lane will be available during the temporary closure.

The Order will come into operation on 3 February 2012 and will continue in force for a period of up to a maximum of 18 months or until the said works have been completed whichever is the earlier. If the works are not completed within the period stated, a further Order may be made. Any person committing a breach of the Order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes

25 January 2012

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(CAWKWELL WAY, BLETCHLEY (PARTS) AND ADJACENT FOOTWAY)
(TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 25 January 2012 made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 because of works, namely the positioning of a crane and cherry picker in order to carry out the fitting of balcony rails to a new building at Cawkwell Way, Bletchley, Milton Keynes. The effect of this is to temporarily prohibit access along that length of Cawkwell Way together with the adjacent footway commencing from its junction with Princes Way, Bletchley, continuing for a distance of approximately 15 metres in a general westerly direction. It is anticipated that the closure will be in effect from 7.00 am on Monday 30 January 2012 until 4.30 pm on Friday 10 February 2012. Whilst the road is temporarily closed the alternative route will be via Cambridge Street for southbound traffic, continuing into Westfield Road, then easterly along Findlay Way to Lennox Road, then northerly along Lennox Road to Princes Way, and vice versa for northbound traffic. Whilst the footway is temporarily closed the alternative route will be via the opposite footway.

The alternative routes will be signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual and advance information signs will be placed at either end of the lengths of road and footway to be closed a few days before the works are due to take place.

There shall be no exemptions from the provisions of the Order.

The Order will come into operation on 30 January 2012 and will continue in force for a period of up to a maximum of 18 months or until the said works have been completed whichever is the earlier. If the works are not completed within the period stated, a further Order may be made. Any person committing a breach of the Order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes

25 January 2012

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (VARIOUS ROADS, WEST BLETCHLEY)
(CONSOLIDATION OF PARKING AND WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2002)
VARIATION ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes proposes to make an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which will affect all classes of vehicle and will have the following effects in parts of roads within West Bletchley:-

- The reduction of the length of the current 'Limited Waiting' restriction within the unnamed road leading from Church Green Road to Elmers Park and St Mary's Church;
- The increase of the current 'No Waiting at Any Time' restriction within the unnamed road leading from Church Green Road to Elmers Park and St Mary's Church;
- The amendment of the days of operation of the current 'Limited Waiting' restriction within the unnamed road leading from Church Green Road to Elmers Park and St Mary's Church from 'Seven Days A Week' to 'Monday to Friday';
- The reduction of the current length of the 'No Waiting at Any Time' restriction at the junction of Kincardine Drive and Sutherland Grove;
- The reduction of the current length of the 'No Waiting at Any Time' restriction along part of Whalley Drive;
- The introduction of Residents' Permit parking, double yellow lines and one disabled persons' parking bay in parts of Corfe Crescent;
- The introduction of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions along parts of Bushy Close, Chester Close, Buckingham Road, Highland Close, Mersey Way, Tees Way, Mossmans Close, Rickley Lane, St Mary's Avenue, Whalley Drive and Whaddon Way;
- The introduction of 'No Loading' restrictions along parts of Highland Close, Mossmans Close and Rickley Lane.

Exemptions from the proposed Order include: emergency service vehicles, military vehicles, statutory undertakers, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons badge holders, and some others.

Copies of the proposed Order together with maps showing the areas referred to, a Statement of Reasons for proposing the Order and copies of any Orders that are to be varied or revoked by these proposals may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes; Bletchley Library, Westfield Road, Bletchley and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes. Any objections to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made, must be made in writing and sent to the undersigned to be received no later than 15 February 2012 quoting reference BAS-P&E-004746-1886.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes

25 January 2012

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES) (ON-STREET PROHIBITION OF STOPPING AND LIMITED WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 24th January 2012 made an Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) and (2), 4(2), 45, 46, 49 and 53 and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. This Order will come into operation on the 31st January 2012 and its effect will be to introduce on a permanent basis the following restrictions, which were first introduced experimentally on 31st January 2011.

The introduction of no stopping at any time except taxis restrictions for the whole 24 hours of every day in parts of Saxon Gate East and Avebury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes

The introduction of limited waiting restrictions, every day of the week, between the hours of 7.00a.m. and 6.00p.m. for a maximum period of 15 minutes, no return within 1 hour, in parts of Saxon Gate and Midsummer Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes.

The introduction of limited waiting restrictions, every day of the week, between the hours of 8.00p.m. and 3.00a.m. for a maximum period of 15 minutes, no return within 1 hour, in part of Avebury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes.

The introduction of limited waiting restrictions, every day of the week, between the hours of 7.00a.m. and 6.00p.m. for a maximum period of 2 hours, no return within 2 hours, in part of Saxon Gate, Central Milton Keynes.

The following are exempt from the provisions of the Order. Emergency service vehicles, statutory undertakers, loading and unloading, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons' badge holders and some others.

A copy of the Order as made, including maps indicating the locations and their effects, together with a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order and a copy of any Order being revoked and/or amended by this Order, may be viewed at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes between the hours of 9.00am and 5.00pm on any working day and also at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes during normal opening hours. Please quote reference WULP&E/1827/RO/1633.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order was made, apply to the High Court for that purpose.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes

25 January 2012

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

The following applications may be inspected at the Planning, Economy and Development Department, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes. Representations, if any, to be submitted in writing to the above address within 21 days of the publication of this notice.

SECTION 73	WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA
11/02663/FUL	Erection of a two storey rear extension (re-submission of 10/01533/FUL) at 10 The Green, Woughton On The Green.
11/02788/FUL	Erection of a two storey side extension at 25 Broughton Road, Milton Keynes Village.
12/00046/FUL	Demolition of existing barns; erection of a two storey three bedroom dwelling, detached double garage and store (re-submission of 11/01537/FUL) at Rickyard Site, Manor Farm, Lower Weald To Calverton Road, Calverton.
SECTION 67 & 73	LISTED BUILDING WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA
12/00019/FUL	Conversion of office building to 5 dwellings at 41-43 Tickford Street, Newport Pagnell.
12/00020/LBC	Listed building consent for the conversion of office building to 5 dwellings at 41-43 Tickford Street, Newport Pagnell.
12/00028/FUL	Conversion of existing buildings to 3 dwellings, associated amenity space and parking at Clare Stables, Vicarage Road, Stony Stratford.
12/00045/FUL	Erection of a single storey rear extension at Apple Tree Cottage, Chapel Lane, Weston Underwood.
12/00099/LBC	Listed building consent for the erection of a single storey rear extension at Apple Tree Cottage, Chapel Lane, Weston Underwood.
SECTION 67 & 73	AFFECTING THE SETTING OF A LISTED BUILDING WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA
12/00090/TCA	Notification of intention of removal of deadwood and damaged branches to 3 x Horse Chestnut trees at Weston House, Olney Road, Weston Underwood.
SECTION 67	LISTED BUILDING
12/00115/FUL	Erection of replacement rear white timber conservatory at 141 Buckingham Road, Bletchley.
12/00116/LBC	Listed building consent for erection of replacement rear white timber conservatory at 141 Buckingham Road, Bletchley.
SECTION 67	AFFECTING THE SETTING OF A LISTED BUILDING
12/00053/FUL	Proposed demolition of timber car port and construction of extension to outbuilding to form new double garage, along with minor landscaping alterations at 4 - 5 Manor Cottages, Old Wolverton Road, Old Wolverton.
12/00054/LBC	Listed building consent for the proposed demolition of timber car port and construction of extension to outbuilding to form new double garage, along with minor landscaping alterations at 4 - 5 Manor Cottages, Old Wolverton Road, Old Wolverton.
12/00087/FUL	Erection of handstanding and perimeter fence to enclose existing generators, associated tanks and equipment at Foreign And Commonwealth Office, Hanslope Park, Hanslope Park Road, Hanslope.

Nick Fenwick, Assistant Director Planning, Economy and Development

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(BROUGHTON) (20 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION ZONE) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 24th January 2012 made the above named order under sections 82(2) & 83(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (the Act). The order will affect all classes of vehicle and its effect will be to impose a 20 mph speed restriction zone at Broughton, Milton Keynes, which will impose a 20 mph speed limit, along the whole length of each of the following roads within Broughton: Ambergate, Ardley Mews, Bewdley Grove, Bicton Chase, Blue Anchor Avenue, Bulmer Close, Butterfly Gate, Cadeby Court, Cavan Way, Chasewater Crescent, Clipstone Brook Way, Corris Court, Culver Avenue, Dean Forest Way, Eskdale Way, Ferry Meadows Close, Fresh Field Avenue, Goodrington Place, Hanworth Croft, Highley Grove, Hunsbury Chase, Kelling Way, Kemsley Crescent, Kingswear Drive, Laxfield Drive, London Road, Maypool Way, Milton Road, Oakworth Avenue, Oxenhouse Way, Paignton Way, Pye Bridge End, Radstock Crescent, Ravenglass Croft, Ropley Way, Seaton Grove, Shackstone Close, Staverton Grove, Swanwick Lane, Tanfield Lane, Ulverston Crescent, Weybourne Road.

The Order will come into effect from 25th January 2012.

A copy of the order, the Council's statement of reasons for making the order and a map showing the lengths of roads referred to may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes, MK9 3HG. Please quote reference number P&E 003771/PB.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or on grounds that any requirement of the Act or any instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order was made, apply to High Court for that purpose.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes





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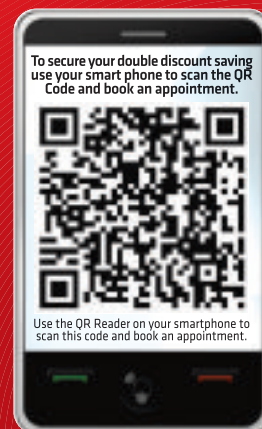
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AUG 6 HARTLEPOOL (H)	D	2-2
AUG 9 CHELTENHAM (A) CC1	W	4-1
AUG 13 EXETER (A)	W	2-0
AUG 16 YEovil (A)	W	1-0
AUG 20 CHESTERFIELD (H)	W	6-2
AUG 23 NORWICH (A) CC2	W	4-0
AUG 27 STEVENAGE (H)	W	1-0
AUG 30 BRENTFORD (H) JPT1	D	3-3
(BRENTFORD WON 4-3 ON PENS)		
SEP 3 CARLISLE (A)	W	3-1
SEP 10 SHEFF WED (A)	L	3-1
SEP 17 HUDDERSFIELD (H)	D	1-1
SEP 20 BURNLEY (A) CC3	L	2-1
SEP 24 BURY (A)	D	0-0
SEP 27 CHARLTON (H)	D	1-1
OCT 1 NOTTS COUNTY (H)	W	3-0
OCT 10 OLDHAM (A)	L	2-1
OCT 15 BOURNEMOUTH (H)	D	2-2
OCT 22 SCUNTHORPE (H)	D	0-0
OCT 25 SHEFF UTD (A)	L	2-1
OCT 29 WALSALL (A)	W	2-0
NOV 5 ROCHDALE (H)	W	3-1
NOV 12 NANTWICH (H) FAC1	W	6-0
NOV 19 COLCHESTER (A)	W	5-1
NOV 26 WYCOMBE (H)	W	4-3
DEC 3 BARNET (A) FAC2	W	3-1
DEC 10 TRANMERE (A)	W	2-0
DEC 17 PRESTON (H)	L	1-0
DEC 26 LEYTON ORIENT (A)	W	3-0
DEC 31 BRENTFORD (A)	D	3-3
JAN 2 COLCHESTER (H)	W	1-0
JAN 7 QPR (H) FAC3	D	1-1
JAN 17 QPR (A) FAC3R	L	1-0
JAN 21 NOTTS COUNTY (A)	D	1-1
JAN 24 STEVENAGE (A)	L	4-1
JAN 31 SHEFF WED (H)		
FEB 4 HUDDERSFIELD (A)		
FEB 11 BURY (H)		
FEB 14 CHARLTON (A)		
FEB 18 OLDHAM (H)		
FEB 25 BOURNEMOUTH (A)		
MAR 3 HARTLEPOOL (A)		
MAR 6 YEovil (H)		
MAR 10 EXETER (H)		
MAR 17 CHESTERFIELD (A)		
MAR 20 LEYTON ORIENT (H)		
MAR 27 CARLISLE (H)		
MAR 24 WYCOMBE (A)		
MAR 31 BRENTFORD (H)		
APR 7 PRESTON (A)		
APR 9 TRANMERE (H)		
APR 14 SCUNTHORPE (A)		
APR 21 SHEFF UTD (H)		
APR 28 ROCHDALE (A)		
MAY 5 WALSALL (H)		

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LOCAL FOOTBALL

FA VASE

NEWPORT Pagnell Town's dreams of a Wembley final were dashed as Northumberland visitors Ashington knocked them out of the FA Vase with a 3-2 win.

All five goals of the fourth round tie were scored in a manic first half at Willen Road in front of a record crowd of 664.

Mark O'Dea and Gareth Rees both found the target to put Ashington 2-0 up but Newport battled back to level thanks to Daren Dykes and Dean Buss.

It wasn't to be though as Gareth Bainbridge regained the lead for Ashington after an initial effort had crashed against the crossbar.

MK SUNDAY LEAGUE

LEADERS Willen did not play in the Premier Division which allowed nearest challengers Stony Stratford to keep up the pressure with a 3-0 win over Loughton.

Stony are now five points behind in second but they have four games in hand.

Padbury AFC thumped Open University 5-0 to climb off the foot of the table at the expense of their opponents, and elsewhere Trade 2U beat CS Athletic 2-1, FC Lifesearch beat Kings Arms 3-2 and Great Mile Ash and Stantonbury Social drew 3-3.

In Division One Olney stay top after their 6-0 win against Buckingham Utd.

MK Dons
assistant
manager
JOHN
GORMAN
writes
exclusively
for MK NEWS
every week



I HAVE not been sent to the stands many times in my career but it happened to me, as well as Notts County boss Martin Allen, on Saturday.

It has only happened once before and I wasn't even sent off when I was a player, although I was booked a few times.

On Saturday it was just over a simple thing when the fourth official went into their technical area.

We had to go in there to speak to him as we were adamant that he was booking the wrong player.

It was Stephen Gleeson and not Tom Flanagan so we wanted to help the fourth official by telling him and Martin Allen took a wee bit of offence.

I'm not sure if it's because of the crowd, which it probably might have been, but Martin said 'get him out of here' and he pushed Karl.

I just thought I would step in instead of Karl and give him a push back. It was as simple as that.

We shared a drink in Martin's office after the game and we had a good laugh about it afterwards.

To be sent to the stands is something I'll have to accept, but we'll get the boxing gloves on the next time we play.

The time I was sent to the stands before was when I was at Wycombe and it was during extra time of a cup game.

One of the players was shown a red card when we were on the pitch doing a team-talk as he had said something to one of the linesmen.

I went over to the ref to say 'how can you send him off?' and he said 'you're off as well'.

At Notts County I was escorted into the crowd, I even had to change my boots.

I was sitting next to the chairman and I found it a bit frustrating as I could see things developing in the game.

The penalty was a really frustrating moment as from where I was it was just so obvious that it didn't hit his arm.

He actually took his arm away, the worst it hit was the top of his shoulder and his arm was behind his back.

If we had hung on to 1-0 I might have said that I'd like to stay up there all the time, but with them scoring I just wanted to be down on the sidelines as you just feel like there's nothing you can do.

LEAGUE ONE TABLE

Team	P	Home					Away					GD	PTS
		W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		
1 Charlton	26	8	4	0	27	8	10	2	2	24	11	32	60
2 Huddersfield	27	9	4	1	25	13	5	7	1	30	14	28	53
3 Sheffield Utd	27	10	2	2	33	16	6	3	4	19	12	24	53
4 Sheffield Wed	27	9	3	1	27	13	7	2	5	23	22	15	53
5 MK Dons	26	6	5	1	24	13	7	3	4	27	17	21	47
6 Stevenage	27	6	4	3	21	14	6	5	3	22	11	18	45
7 Carlisle	26	6	4	3	24	22	5	5	3	17	17	2	42
8 Bournemouth	27	5	2	6	14	17	6	5	3	21	17	1	40
9 Brentford	27	4	5	5	17	18	5	5	3	16	15	0	37
10 Bury	26	5	3	5	17	20	6	1	6	18	21	-6	37
11 Preston	27	5	3	6	23	28	5	3	5	17	18	-6	36
12 Leyton Orient	27	4	4	6	14	19	5	4	4	16	19	-8	35
13 Notts County	27	6	5	2	23	15	3	2	9	19	25	2	34
14 Hartlepool	27	3	2	8	10	16	6	5	3	22	20	-4	34
15 Colchester	26	5	5	4	24	23	3	4	5	12	16	-5	33
16 Oldham	26	5	3	5	16	16	3	5	5	16	21	-5	32
17 Tranmere	27	5	6	3	13	10	3	1	9	15	23	-5	31
18 Exeter	27	4	5	4	13	14	2	4	8	11	25	-15	27
19 Walsall	27	3	6	5	14	18	1	7	5	12	15	-7	25
20 Scunthorpe	27	2	6	6	20	26	2	7	4	14	17	-9	25
21 Yeovil	27	4	2	8	17	24	1	7	5	13	21	-15	24
22 Wycombe	27	4	2	8	17	24	2	3	8	16	25	-16	23
23 Rochdale	27	2	6	5	14	22	2	3	9	10	27	-25	21
24 Chesterfield	27	2	5	6	13	18	2	3	9	19	31	-17	20

Robinson's boys buried at Boro



BORO BLOW: Jay O'Shea is shut out (above) and Jabo Ibehre hits the side netting (below)

STEVENAGE 4



DONS 2



FROM BACK PAGE

following poor defending by Doumbe, but the striker inexplicably failed to shoot when the ball was begging to be hit and the chance went begging.

It was Boro who ended the half better with Dons struggling to break after the equaliser and for once Karl Robinson's side didn't enjoy the majority of possession.

The visiting defence was being kept on its toes but after the half-time break Dons came out looking refreshed and Jabo Ibehre found the side netting from an early corner.

Stevenage responded by picking up the pace themselves and when

goalscorer Bostwick tried again from similar range a deflection made the save awkward for Martin.

The hosts had regained their momentum but a great chance went to waste at the other end when O'Shea latched onto a long ball and drove in on goal. Charlie MacDonald was well placed for a tap-in had the wide-man slid the ball across but he chose the wrong option and fired in a high angled shot which Day saved.

By now the game was delicately poised with the next goal looking crucial but Dons suffered a major blow with a nightmare two minutes of football.

Centre-half Doumbe, who was

booked earlier in the half for handball, received his marching orders after a foul on Beardsley.

Robinson immediately brought on defender Tom Flanagan but before the new defence had time to settle, Scott Laird had flicked Luke Freeman's resulting free-kick into the far corner of the net.

Dons now had a mountain to climb and things went from bad to worse when Charles popped up in the box with a header of his own which also nestled in past Martin.

Stevenage kept coming and Wilson nearly tested Martin with a terrific drive from distance which ghosted wide, and the ten men did not threaten until Flanagan suddenly gave Dons hope late on by heading past Day.

But any thoughts of the unlikely-est of comebacks were immediately squashed when Gary MacKenzie turned Charles' low centre into his own net.

In defeat, fifth placed Dons missed the chance to increase the gap on sixth placed Stevenage and things won't be getting any easier for Robinson's men as fellow promotion rivals Sheffield Wednesday and Huddersfield are coming up in the next two matches. **Stevenage:** Day, Wilson, Laird, Charles, Ashton, Byrom (Edwards 87), Roberts, Freeman (Long 68), Beardsley (Cowan 81), Bostwick, Henry. Unused subs: Julian, Edwards, Shroot.

Dons: Martin, Smith, Lewington, Doumbe, MacKenzie, Gleeson, Bowditch (Flanagan 63), MacDonald, Ibehre, O'Shea, Chadwick (Powell 77). Unused subs: McLoughlin, Baldock, McNamee.
Att: 3345



RUGBY UNION

Stadiummk crowd is treated to a cracker

Northampton Saints 36 Munster 51

A HUGE stadiummk crowd witnessed an epic rugby match which saw Northampton Saints bow out of the Heineken Cup at their home from home.

Saints' European adventure ended as it began – defeat at the hands of Munster in an enthralling and absorbing contest.

This time though, the contest was settled well before the final whistle though as a hat-trick of tries from Simon Zebo and a personal haul of 26 points from Ronan O'Gara saw the Irishmen out-gun Jim Mallinder's side.

The decision to switch the match from Franklin's Gardens to Milton Keynes proved controversial when it was announced, but a near-capacity crowd were treated to a high-scoring exhibition that proved as fiery and feisty along with the try-fest that it turned out to be.

And yet at half time the contest was balanced on a knife edge with the teams dead-locked at 19 apiece.

But Zebo's score soon after play resumed swung things in favour of Munster, with the 21-year-old stealing the show and celebrating his recent call-up to the Ireland Six Nations squad with a man of the match performance.

Meanwhile, the Saints could not even have the consolation of qualifying for the Amlin Challenge Cup thanks to results elsewhere.

News of the Scarlets snatching a late win at Castres meant their elimination from European competition was confirmed.

Shell-shocked coach Jim Mallinder admitted his side were 'second best' against Munster and predicted the Irish province could go all the way again in the Heineken Cup this season.

He said: "They raised their game from their previous five in the Heineken Cup. They looked after the ball and we gave it away.

"We talk about getting your set-piece right but, while our scrum was good, we didn't get our re-starts right.

"You can't just have dominance in the scrum and expect to win the game. Munster dominated every other area and came out on top."

For a full match report visit www.mk-news.co.uk/sport.

BASKETBALL

Sturt stands up to the pressure

ICE cool Adrien Sturt sunk a massive three pointer to give Lions a dramatic late victory over fierce rivals Leicester Riders on Friday.

Cameron Rundles put Leicester 75-74 in front with just 43 seconds left on the clock but Australian Sturt held his nerve under high pressure to fire Lions back in front.

Incredibly, there were only four seconds left when Sturt coolly floated in his three pointer to win the game.

When the ball dropped it sparked scenes of celebration on court and coach Mike New tried to restore order as Leicester still believed there was time to win it.

He said: "There was still time left on the clock so I tried to keep everyone calm.

"We didn't know what could have happened so I told the guys to finish the job."

The game was a close run thing but Lions will perhaps feel that it could have been won more easily after they stormed out of the blocks.

Demarius Boldo helped himself to nine points in a blistering first quarter which saw Lions race into an almost unheard of 18-4 lead.

Leicester went five minutes without scoring and the lead had been increased to 29-10 at the first break.

Things got even better for Lions who kept Leicester out for the first two-and-a-half minutes of the second to claim a monster 25-point lead at 35-10, but Riders, undefeated on their own court before the game, began to hit back.

Scoring bursts reeled in the deficit to just ten points at half-time and Leicester continued to chip away at the total following the restart before the pulsating final moments.

Rundles' basket sensationally put Leicester in front for the first time since the opening seconds and it looked like they would complete the most unlikely of comebacks before Sturt's heroics.

The 6'10" player had netted just one of his four three point attempts all night but he found the hoop when it mattered most.



Kept his cool: Adrien Sturt. Picture: F1 Point Zero

Leicester Riders 75 Lions 77

Lions now find themselves sixth in the British Basketball League (BBL) table, well poised to break into the top four if they can string together a sequence of wins.

"It's a marathon not a sprint and we hope to keep playing well at the right times," New told MK NEWS. "We need to stay focussed and hopefully we can get some momentum."

Lions have won three of their last four away games and New believes that the players he signed from overseas are starting to perform well as they have become used to the game in Britain.

The roster has been boosted with the return of veteran Rob Youngblood, a move which led to Nathan Schall leaving MK for Cheshire Jets.

ICE HOCKEY

Lightning hope to push on for silverware with new Finnish signing

Lightning 0 Sheffield Steeldogs 2
Basingstoke Bison 0 Lightning 2

NICK Poole has freshened up the MK Lightning roster to help boost the club's hunt for trophies this season.

Slovakian forward Juraj Gracik, who was selected as a draft pick by NHL side Atlanta Thrashers in 2004, has been released from the club and Finn Tuomas Tikkanen has been drafted in to replace him for the rest of the season.

Gracik only joined Lightning in the summer but player-coach Poole decided to make the switch to 'maximise' Lightning's chances of claiming silverware this term.

Clubs are only allowed to have four imported players on their books so in order to sign Tikkanen, one of Lightning's other overseas players had to make way.

Poole said that allowing Gracik to leave was a tough decision but one which had been made with the team's best interests at heart.

He said: "This decision was extremely difficult, as Gracik has been a true professional from start to finish.

"He's given us everything he had and fitted in very well with the team ethos – it's always sad to see a player go who has worked tirelessly for the team.

"Everyone here at the Lightning wishes Juraj the very best for the future and we thank him for all of his efforts while in MK."



Action against Sheffield

Left winger Tikkanen has played most of his ice hockey in his native Finland but he has also enjoyed spells in France and Sweden.

"He's very keen to come to the UK and extremely excited about the months ahead," Poole said.

"We believe Tuomas will provide a big boost to the team both on and off the ice.

"I'm familiar with the Finnish Second Division, having played a year there myself, and Tuomas' stats in that league speak for themselves. He is a very skillful player who will contribute with goals and create opportunities for his line-mates.

"He'll take some pressure off of Blaz Emersic

and Leigh Jamieson who have been carrying the bulk of our offensive production, and will also boost our power play."

Lightning won one and lost one this weekend but still sit second in the English Premier League table, meaning they are right in contention for the title.

There is also a two-leg cup semi-final with Sheffield Steeldogs to contend with next month, and the opposition will go into that tie with a psychological edge after beating Lightning 2-0 at Planet Ice on Saturday.

It was the first time in more than a year that Lightning have failed to score a goal as Sheffield took their chances better in a game where both sides conceded several penalties.

Lightning, who welcomed back Ross Bowers but were missing Michael Farn through injury, went behind when two of their players had been sent to the penalty box – Poole for delaying the game and Blaz Emersic for tripping.

Edgars Bebris took advantage of the discrepancy and the dangerous Janis Ozolins later slotted in a second.

The defeat was put to bed on Sunday with a 2-0 away triumph at Basingstoke Bison, thanks to a determined rearguard performance.

Leigh Jamieson scored in the second period after passes from Poole and Ross Green and Green slid home an empty netter late on.

Lightning meet Basingstoke again this Saturday, with a 7pm face-off at Planet Ice.

SPORTS SHORTS

RUGBY UNION

Slough 24 Milton Keynes 66

THERE was a huge win for MK who were not phased by windy conditions.

A bombardment of City attacks, which included a hat-trick of tries from Dan Rolfe, sealed the win with 33 points coming in each half.

Bletchley 20 Buckingham 25

BLETCHLEY missed the chance to climb the South West 1 East table with defeat to relegation threatened Buckingham, who came from behind to win.

Tries from Jim Miller and Matt Nobes, along with helpful points from Phil Harman's boot, put Bletchley 17-3 up at half-time.

But Buckingham took advantage of an out-of-sorts home defence in the second half with three tries of their own and 22 unanswered points.

Salisbury 67 Olney 0

OLNEY remain in trouble at the bottom of the South West 1 East after a torrid afternoon at Salisbury.

The Wiltshire club breached the visiting defence at will and ran in ten tries while preventing Olney from getting on the board.

WATER POLO

THE newly formed MK Water Polo club started life by losing 9-5 to Dunstable in a close fought game.

MK led 2-1 at the end of their very first quarter but lost grip on the lead.

The club, based at Stantonbury Leisure Centre, is looking for new members and more information is available at www.mkwaterpolo.co.uk.

BADMINTON

THERE was a good week for the city's National Badminton Centre after two titles were captured at the Swedish International in Stockholm.

Nathan Robertson and Jenny Wallwork won the mixed doubles title by beating Denmark's Mads Pieler Kolding and Julie Houmann 21-17, 21-17.

Mariana Agathangelou and Heather Olver then defeated Americans Eva Lee and Paula Lynn Obana 21-15, 21-12 in the women's doubles final.

ATHLETICS

MK ATHLETICS runners Jasmine Finlay and Rebecca Davies picked up a silver and bronze medal respectively at the South of England Indoor Championships at Lee Valley.

Finlay set a new club record of 2m 17.36s in the F17 800m final and Davies did the same in F17 60m hurdles final with her time of 9.32s.

ON THE WEB THIS WEEK...

Log on to the MK NEWS website and click on the Sports Interviews box to hear from Olympic hopefuls Andrew Baggaley and Rajiv Ouseph.

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Lightning
welcome
Finnish star
— page 83

Martin will always be Robbo's number one

KARL Robinson has branded critics of David Martin as 'stupid' and said that the keeper would always be his number one choice at Dons.

Martin was in superb form during Saturday's 1-1 draw at Notts County as he repelled a wave of Magpies attacks.

He made a string of good saves to keep County out, including an excellent stop which tipped Lee Hughes' close range half-volley over the top.

His best save though was a diving effort to prevent Alan Judge's teasing curler from finding the far corner.

Martin deserved a clean sheet which would have handed his side victory but he was eventually beaten by a Jeff Hughes penalty after Tom Flanagan was adjudged to have handled Judge's stinging drive.

Flanagan, only playing due to injuries to central defensive duo Gary Mackenzie and Shaun Williams, had given Dons a first half lead with an acrobatic volley which County keeper Stuart Nelson couldn't claw out.

He was unlucky with the penalty decision as his arms were at his side and it would have been impossible to get out of the way of the ball.

But County deserved their leveller as they put Martin's goal under increase pressure in the second half and were much the better side after the restart.

Robinson said: "I thought David made some excellent saves and the stupid people who comment on him and say things about different things need to have a look at some of the performances he's put in."

"I think we're the joint leading team in clean sheets and he's tremendous at what he does."

"He's here for a reason, he's our number one goalkeeper and while I'm at the football club he will always be that."

Meanwhile, Robinson has admitted that it has been tough work trying to lure transfer targets to stadiummk, as opposing managers are not pleased with Dons showing an interest.

Robinson wanted new faces in place by the Carlisle game on January 14, which was later postponed, but nobody had arrived before Notts County.

"The players we are trying for have quality and it's difficult to get them out," he said.



OFF: Mathias Kouo-Doumbé (on knees) is sent off.

Picture: Andy Handley.

BY DAN PALMER

dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

Stevenage 4 Dons 2

TEN-man Dons lost ground at the top of League One last night as promotion rivals Stevenage won the top six clash at the Lamex Stadium.

The game was well balanced until Dons defender Mathias Doumbé was sent off in the second half, giving Stevenage a numerical advantage which they gleefully took capitalised on.

Darren Potter was missing for MK through flu so there was a rare starting berth for winger Jay O'Shea and the Irishman, who would have been

keen to make the most of the opportunity, made a dream start to the match.

With only two minutes played Adam Smith set off on a trademark run down the right flank and after his cross fell loose, O'Shea was on hand to bury a finish past Chris Day.

Managerless Stevenage had made an energetic start before the early strike but the Dubliner continued to impress, fooling Michael Bostwick with a lovely piece of skill before letting fly with a long ranger which drifted just off target.

Dons slipped into their normal passing game and were doing well at the back to stop Stevenage attacks before they encroached dangerously into away territory.

Keeper David Martin had not been tested but just when Dons looked comfortable, the hosts suddenly hit back with an excellent strike from nothing.

Bostwick was given time and space just outside the visiting penalty area and after being teed up he arrowed a rocket of a shot past the goalie which crashed into the bottom corner.

Martin had little chance of reaching it and after the dangerous Lawrie Wilson had skipped past Dean Lewington, the Dons custodian could again only watch as Darius Charles' weak shot drifted only inches wide. He then should have been tested after Chris Beardsley got in behind

TURN TO PAGE 82

Race For Promotion! MK DONS V SHEFFIELD WED

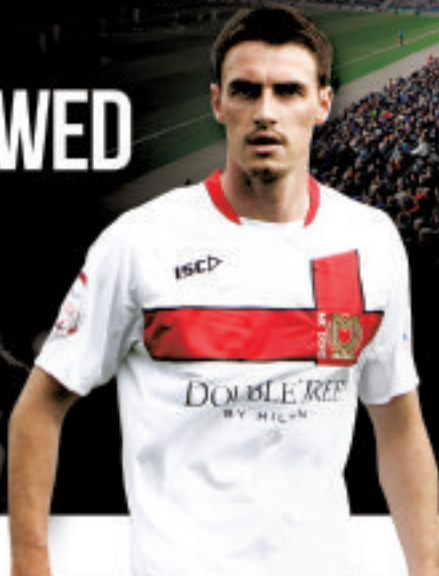
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